

2003

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT



for the
Nebraska
Housing and Community Development Programs
Consolidated Plan

Including **Federal Programs:**
Non-entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)
Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)
and the **State Programs:**
Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF)
Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF)

July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

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Community and Rural Development Division

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Action Plan Acronym List

Acronym	Full Name
AAP	Annual Action Plan
AHP	Affordable Housing Program
AIDS	Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANCHoR	Automated National Client-specific Homeless services Recording
APR	Annual Performance Report
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CHAS	Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy
CHDO	Community Housing Development Organization
CNF	Community Need Factors
CR	Comprehensive Revitalization
CRD	Community and Rural Development
DED	Nebraska Department of Economic Development
DEQ	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
HHS	Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
EPA	Environmental Policy Act
ESG	Emergency Shelter Grant
ESGP	Emergency Shelter Grant Program
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIC	Family Investment Centers
FNMA	Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae)
GNMA	Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae)
HCDCC	Holistic Community Development Consulting Committee
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOPE	Home Ownership for People Everywhere
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
HSATF	Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund
HUBS	Historically Underutilized Businesses
HUD	U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
LMI	Low to Moderate Income Persons
NAHC	Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission
NAHRO	Nebraska Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
NAHTF	Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund
NCHH	Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness
NCIP	Nebraska Community Improvement Program
NHAP	Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program
NHDA	Nebraska Housing Developers Association
NHHSS	Nebraska Health and Human Services System
NICH	Nebraska Interagency Council on Homelessness
NRC	Nebraska Natural Resources Commission
PHDEP	Public Housing Drug Elimination Program
PW	Public Works
RDC	Rural Development Commission
SRO	Single Room Occupancy Housing Program
TARP	Technical Assistance Review Team
TIF	Tax Increment Financing
TOP	Public Housing Tenant Opportunities Program
USDA - RD	U. S. Department of Agriculture - Rural Development
WW	Water Wastewater
YSP	Youth Sport Program

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Section One:

Introduction and Citizen Participation

Introduction

Purpose

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) reports progress on the *Nebraska Community and Rural Development Consolidated Plan* (the *Consolidated Plan*), a five-year plan addressing the state's Community and Rural Development needs. The purpose of the CAPER is to:

1. **Show** the state's five-year priorities and strategies for housing, homelessness, non-housing community development and the community development delivery system;
2. **Summarize** the actions taken during the 2003 program year to meet the five-year strategies;
3. **Report** how funds received from these programs were used to meet the identified priorities;
4. **Describe** the state's method for distributing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESG), Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF) funds, and Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF) funds. Activities funded from these programs must meet the priorities identified in the five-year *Consolidated Plan*;
5. **List** the resources that may be used by grantees and the state to further the five-year strategies;
6. **Report** actions taken by the state that are required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), such as lead-based paint actions and removal of barriers to affordable housing; and
7. **Review** citizen comments about the CAPER and give a response from the Department of Economic Development (DED).

Amount of Funds

This report summarizes the distribution of funds for two state programs and three federal programs for the 2003 program year. Funds received for these programs totaled over \$25.3 million:

- \$14,172,000 in CDBG funds
- \$5,526,000 in HOME funds
- \$527,000 in ESG funds
- \$1,600,000 in HSATF funds
- \$3,500,000 in NAHTF funds

The CAPER also describes program priorities, use of funds and any funds (1) remaining or recaptured from previous CDBG allocations, (2) reallocated by HUD to the state and (3) program income distributed by the state during the 2003 program year.

The 2003 CAPER

The 2003 CAPER is the fourth of five annual performance reports. Each report describes the one-year actions and funding priorities used to carry out the five-year *Consolidated Plan*, a comprehensive planning document identifying the state's housing development, economic development and community development needs. As the lead state agency responsible for the five-year *Consolidated Plan*, DED must also complete the annual action plans and annual performance reports to receive federal funds for the HUD CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. Covering all areas of the state (except Omaha and Lincoln, which are required to submit and prepare their own Consolidated Plans), the *Consolidated Plan* establishes funding priorities for these programs, outlines strategies, and annually identifies a one-year action plan for program implementation and funding.

Specifically the purpose of this consolidated annual performance evaluation report is to demonstrate how activities undertaken during the 2003 program year address pertinent Strategic Plan strategies and priorities identified in the 2000 Consolidated Plan. Sections two, three and four of the CAPER give the three major priorities of the state and the strategies that were set in the Consolidated Plan. These sections go into more detail by stating the objectives and performance measurements that were set for each strategy for the 2003 program year. A progress report is given for each performance measurement, the progress reports summarize the activities that were taken during the 2003 program year so that citizens reviewing the report are able to assess the progress that has been made towards meeting the 5-year priorities and strategies that were established in the Consolidated Plan.

Strategies do not describe every activity to be undertaken by the state. Instead, the strategies provide direction in the form of a priority need with objectives, performance measures, and completion dates. Objectives serve as examples of the activities to be initiated during those five years. Strategies and objectives may be added, deleted, or modified in subsequent annual action plans.

Nebraska's Consolidated Planning Process

In summary, Nebraska's Consolidated Planning Process serves the following functions:

- Provide a 5 year planning document for the State which builds on a comprehensive consultation and citizens participation process;
- Serve as an application for federal funds under HUD's formula grant programs;
- Provide a strategy for housing, homelessness, community and economic development;
- Develop an action plan that provides a basis for measuring and assessing performance; and
- Provide annual performance and evaluation reports.

The consolidated planning process is an opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context. The process brings local governments, community organizations, state and federal agencies, service providers, and citizens together to address the larger picture in which the programs operate. It also offers the state an opportunity to shape the various programs into an efficient continuum of service delivery.

Strategies and recommendations were developed with public input and consultation from advisory groups, local community leaders, concerned citizens, nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups, the private sector and representatives of state and federal agencies.

HUD specifies a number of elements for a state Consolidated Plan including:

- an assessment of housing, homeless, community and economic development needs for the ensuing five-year period;
- an analysis of the state's housing market;
- a discussion of the state's priority needs, strategies, and objectives for housing and community development activities;
- an action plan that describes the state's method for distributing funds to carry out activities using funds that are expected to be received under formula allocations and other HUD assistance during the program year and;
- performance measures to assure that the delivery of these needed housing and community development products and services are provided.

Citizen Participation

Opportunities for Public Participation

Public participation with the 2003 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) (including review by the advisory groups) is important to the state. Citizens and other interested parties are given access to information and records relating to the CAPER and programs it covers.

Copies of Annual Performance Evaluation Reports, Annual Action Plans, the *Consolidated Plan* and any other relevant information are all available by contacting anyone within the Department of Economic Development and also are on the Community and Rural Development Division's web-site at: http://crd.neded.org/plans_reports/index.htm

Comment Period

A public comment period occurred August 23, 2004 through September 6, 2004 for the 2003 Proposed CAPER. The Department did not receive any comments.

Public Notices and Press Coverage

- Public notices about the public comment period were placed in the Lincoln Journal Star, Scottsbluff Star-Herald, North Platte Telegraph, Norfolk Daily News, Kearney Daily Hub, Alliance Times-Herald, Ainsworth Star Journal, Chadron Record, Nebraska City New-Press and Grand Island Independent.
- A news release announcing the comment period was sent to media statewide.
- In order to increase the opportunities for public comment, the proposed 2003 CAPER was sent to 16 libraries throughout Nebraska: Alliance Public Library (**Alliance**), Auburn Memorial Library (**Auburn**), Garfield County Library (**Burwell**), Central City Public Library (**Central City**), Chadron Public Library (**Chadron**), Lexington Public Library (**Lexington**), Bennett Martin Library (**Lincoln**), McCook Public Library (**McCook**), Jensen Memorial Library (**Minden**), Goodall City Library (**Ogallala**), Omaha Public Library (**Omaha**), Scottsbluff Public Library (**Scottsbluff**), Sidney Public Library (**Sidney**), Thomas County Library (**Thedford**), Valentine Public Library (**Valentine**), and Wayne Public Library (**Wayne**).
- The CAPER is available on the Community and Rural Development Division web-site at: crd.neded.org/pubs

Targeted Mailings

- Notices announcing the availability of the 2003 CAPER and soliciting comments were sent to official advisory groups, previous CDBG, ESG, and HOME grantees, Community Housing Development Organizations, Community Action Agencies, Development Districts, Nebraska Congressional Representatives, Nebraska State Senators, as well as other interested individuals and groups.
- The Proposed CAPER was mailed to members of the state's official advisory groups.

Advisory Groups

Official advisory groups to the state on the 2003 CAPER are the CDBG Advisory Committee, Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness and the Nebraska Economic Development Commission.

Criteria for Substantial Change

DED reserves the right to make non-substantive changes to the *Consolidated Plan* (including annual action plans and performance reports) without opening a public comment period. A change to the *Consolidated Plan*, which constitutes an amendment or a substantial change meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Addition or deletion of a priority.
- Addition of a strategy not consistent with an existing priority.
- Deletion of a strategy that was previously included.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

Nebraska's performance measurement system for the identification, determination, tracking and reporting of demonstrated benefits is under preparation. The performance measurement system is being developed on a national level. The State of Nebraska is a participant and partner in the design, development and implementation of the Council of State Community Development Agency's (COSCDA) project for the establishment of a performance measurement Outcome Framework. The Outcome Framework will meet all the listed components to Appendix C- Checklist of HUD CPD Notice 03-09.

The Outcome Framework provides flexibility to State's for the establishment of performance measurements consistent through reporting by states. The framework is organized around the statutorily defined objectives of CPD Programs of CDBG, HOME, and HAP. The framework will enable Nebraska to meet statutory requirements of each program, connect and coordinate program activities to meet specific needs, and accurately report program accomplishments.

The Framework includes primary outcomes and measurements for each program national objective. The Framework also provides the flexibility for a wide range of optimal outcomes that states can select from to meet specific needs. The outcomes become management tools and provide for consistent established reporting indicators.

The recommended COSCDA Outcome Framework is an integrated approach to HUD's CPD programs, in that it includes all aspects of the CDBG, HOME and HAP programs under one combined set of goals and objectives. This integrated approach combines the intents expressed by statutory goals of the three programs into one overarching goal. This is the first major design element of the proposed framework and was a key recommendation of the COSCDA Board after reviewing drafts and comments by members. By organizing the framework around the statutorily defined objectives of the three related CPD programs, the framework enables states to meet the statutory requirements of each program, connect and coordinate program activities to meet state specific needs, and accurately report program accomplishments.

The overarching goal is as follows:

To develop viable communities by providing decent, affordable housing and a suitable living environment and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income.

Within this statement are the three related overarching objectives under which activities; outcome indicators and measures will be grouped. They are:

- I. Creating Suitable Living Environments
- II. Providing Decent/affordable housing
- III. Creating economic opportunities

This approach also provides flexibility for a state to select how it will report its activities and outcomes. COSCDA recognizes that the wide range of allowable activities in block grants programs can mean that an activity could very well apply to multiple objectives. For example, in CDBG projects which involve water and sewer repair; that activity might relate to any of the three overarching objectives of economic development, suitable living environment or providing safe, affordable housing. For purposes of reporting, States would declare the main purpose of their program activity under one of the three objectives detailed above. Thus, the framework provides clarity to constituents about the reasons for such investments and how success will be defined, while establishing which outcome will be reported at the national level upon successful implementation of the project.

The second major design element of the Framework relates to the way the concepts of *output, outcome, and impact* are considered. With regard to outcome reporting, the framework includes a list of *Primary Outcomes and Measures* for each of the three related objectives that would be used by all states. In addition to these primary outcomes would be a wide range of *optional outcomes*, which each state would select from, if they chose, based on the specific interests and needs of these states. These optional outcomes, or others determined by a state, would be utilized as a management tool, to discuss and report to the states' constituencies, and would not necessarily be reported and aggregated at the national level. It is, of course, quite likely that additional optional outcomes will be added by states over time. This flexibility is designed to meet the changing and varied needs of the states.

The State of Nebraska anticipates participation in the collection and reporting of data through COSCDA as the reporting entity to HUD.

Section Two: Housing Development Priority

Respond to regional needs for affordable, decent, safe and appropriate housing, shelter and services as part of balanced economic development in Nebraska.

Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

The six (6) strategies developed to meet this priority are:

- **Promote an adequate supply of quality, affordable, appropriate housing for low-and moderate-income individuals, families, and homeowners, including persons with special housing needs.**
- **Overcome barriers to homeownership for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.**
- **Promote an adequate supply of quality, affordable, appropriate rental housing as a choice when homeownership is not a feasible option for low- and moderate-income individuals, families, including persons with special housing needs.**
- **Support and facilitate an active and effective regional continuum of care planning and delivery system focusing on a comprehensive approach to housing and service delivery to people who are homeless and near-homeless.**
- **Identify and address the barriers of homeownership, rental housing, support services, and shelters due to violations of fair housing practices.**
- **Identify and address a strategy for reduction of lead-based paint hazards in rural areas of the state.**

Background

HUD requires the state to report the activities it plans to undertake during the next year to:

- Address obstacles to meeting underserved needs;
- Foster and maintain affordable housing (including the coordination of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with the development of affordable housing);
- Remove barriers to affordable housing;
- Evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards;
- Reduce the number of poverty level families;
- Develop an improved institutional structure; and
- Enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies and foster public housing resident initiatives.

These requirements are reflected in the housing strategies, objectives, and actions for the 2003 Program year.

As shown in the Housing Needs Assessment section (Part Four) of the state's *Consolidated Plan*, a great need exists in the non-metropolitan areas of the state for available housing stock that is affordable. Two primary issues exist: housing availability and affordability.

Available, affordable housing is an economic development issue. Future growth in Nebraska communities is directly linked to the provision of affordable housing. Many communities along the Interstate 80 corridor, and service centers in other areas have experienced tremendous economic growth in the 1990s, but have been unable to meet the demand for additional housing. For communities to survive in the global economy, they must address the need for available and affordable housing. Housing conditions and markets are not universal throughout Nebraska. Besides economic growth, housing needs often reflect the socioeconomic composition of the community, county and region. For citizens, housing needs vary by householder, tenure, age, income, and other special needs.

Housing availability must be addressed. 1990 US Census figures show that almost 25% of the state's non-metropolitan housing units are substandard. Areas experiencing economic growth are generally experiencing a critical shortage of affordable housing. The ability of the private sector to house new employees is severely hindered.

Affordability issues also must be addressed. The lower the income, the greater the need for housing assistance. The Housing Priority Needs Summary Table in the *Consolidated Plan* shows all income groups other than very low- and low-income households (up to 80% of median family income for the area) as medium priority. This ranking acknowledges the importance of all housing needs and allows applicants for federal funding to obtain certification of consistency with the state's housing strategy. Consequently, the state gives highest priority to assisting very low and low income households, targeting those earning less than 50% of median income when appropriate.

The 2002 Nebraska Affordable Housing Program included additional methods to adopt an outcome-based outlook in implementing the funding programs. The Department of Economic Development is an investor in affordable housing in Nebraska. This means that DED expects a return on its investments. This return may not be to the department directly, but should be to the citizens of Nebraska and may be social benefits rather than financial benefits in some cases. It is anticipated that with a well-managed affordable housing program there will bring direct financial gains to the Department of Economic Development. Some examples of these gains are: (1) A not for profit organization that is successful in implementing projects is far less likely to need direct subsidy for operating support because of the project administration funds and the ability to attract local investment and (2) A low-income person assisted in purchasing a home is more likely to stay in the community and with the employer, which results in a stabilized workforce and a decrease in the department's resources to be used for workforce development, job training, and recruitment. It is also anticipated that there will be second-order gains to the State of Nebraska. Some examples of second-order gains are: (1) An elderly person provided a desirable and reasonable affordable housing opportunity is more likely to remain in the community and offer valuable volunteer services to the benefit of the community and its citizens. This also will increase the quality of life for these people and these communities, (2) A very low-income person on direct economic assistance, is in need of less assistance if their home is energy

efficient and affordable, (3) A person provided with more affordable housing than they had previously, has more disposable, expendable income to contribute to the local economy, and (4) Housing development resulting in more units, results in a higher base for local property tax revenue.

The Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness

The Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH) was established by Executive Order in 1998. This commission consolidates the work of the Nebraska Affordable Housing Commission, the Nebraska Interagency Council on the Homeless, and the Affordable Housing Trust Advisory Committee, and recognizes the strong link among housing, homelessness, and near homeless issues.

The Commission's function is to make recommendations to DED and the Health and Human Services System Department of Services (HHSS) on the operation of the Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund; serve as an advisory body on housing and homelessness; assist with education, advocacy, coordination and cooperation; and integrate recommendations from *Nebraska's Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan* and Annual Action Plan with other statewide strategic planning initiatives involved with affordable housing, homelessness/near homelessness, and other housing issues.

Actions for the 2003 Program Year

The state views the provision of affordable housing as a high priority, especially for persons/families making 80% of median income or less. The state works with public, private and nonprofit organizations to identify needs, fill gaps in services, and provide technical assistance in the area of housing. Actions that were planned for 2003 to further this goal are a result of the priority for funding and strategies set by the state in 2000 in the *Consolidated Plan*.

Each of the six housing strategies listed above have objectives and measurements that were planned by the state for the 2003 program year. The objectives and performance measurements that were planned for the six housing strategies are listed below along with a progress report detailing the headway made under each performance measurement during the 2003 program year. The following rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

A → Activity Exceeded Measurement

P → Performance Satisfied Measurement

R → Reasonable Progress Made

N → No Progress Made

■ Strategy One

Promote an adequate supply of quality affordable, appropriate housing for low- and moderate-income individuals, families and homeowners, including persons with special housing needs.

Objective #1: Operate the AHP organizational operating grant process as a capacity building process to assist not for profit housing organizations in increasing the capacity to produce and provide access to affordable housing. This AHP organizational capacity building grant process focuses on short-term investments (approximately 3 years) in nonprofit housing organizations for their operating expenses. These organizations will demonstrate that they will be viable and sustainable organizations without the AHP organizational operating expense assistance after the short-term investment.

Performance Measurement: 11 non-profit housing organizations that began participation in the capacity building process in the 2002 program year will achieve targets and milestones identified in the Outcome Framework Target Plan developed between the recipient and the department.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year 11 non-profit housing organizations from the 2002 capacity building process achieved targets and milestones which were identified in the Outcome Framework Target Plan.*

Performance Measurement: 5 non-profit housing organizations that begin participation in the capacity building process in the 2003 program year will achieve targets and milestones identified in the Outcome Framework Target Plan developed between the recipient and the department.

***P Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year two (2) non-profit housing organizations from the 2003 capacity building process achieved targets and milestones identified in the Outcome Framework Target Plan.*

Objective #2: Invest in rehabilitation of existing housing for low- and moderate-income homeowners using a regional service delivery system with investment in communities that are actively following a locally developed strategic plan to identify and meet community development, economic development and housing needs.

Performance Measurement: 200 owner-occupied homes will be targeted to be rehabilitated as a result of 2003 DED AHP funds.

***P Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year DED awarded \$4,415,159 to 13 local governments and non-profit housing organizations to rehabilitate 193 owner-occupied homes.*

■ Strategy Two

Overcome barriers to homeownership for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.

Lack of available resources to purchase a home is identified as the primary barrier to homeownership. DED AHP investment will be used for direct assistance to homebuyers including down-payment assistance, closing cost assistance and gap subsidy. In addition DED AHP investment will be used to assist in the development of housing to increase the supply of available safe, decent, affordable housing for homebuyers.

Objective #1: Invest DED AHP funds in assisting low-income homebuyers.

Performance Measurement: 300 low-income homebuyers will be targeted to purchase homes partially through assistance from 2003 DED AHP funds for homebuyer programs.

***P** Progress Report: During the 2003 program year DED awarded \$3,906,200 to 13 local governments and non-profit housing for homebuyer programs to assist 280 low-income homebuyers.*

■ Strategy Three

Promote an adequate supply of quality affordable, appropriate rental housing as a choice when homeownership is not a feasible option for low- and moderate-income families and individuals, including persons with special housing needs.

The department will continue to work closely with the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) in coordinating the use of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with Nebraska Affordable Housing Program funds to effectively fund rental development in the state. The NAHP rental housing applications will be available to the Technical Assistance Review Process (TARP) team. TARP members consist of staff from NIFA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture – Rural Development (USDA RD), Nebraska Energy Office (NEO) and Nebraska State Historical Society. TARP members meet once a month. DED staff review and score applications for funding.

Objective #1: Invest in rental housing for families and individuals for whom homeownership is not feasible and/or desired.

Performance Measurement: 150 rental units for persons who are low-income will be targeted to be developed or preserved due to the investment of 2003 DED AHP funds.

***R** Progress Report: During the 2003 program year DED awarded \$2,216,879 to 10 local governments and non-profit housing organizations for the development of 84 rental units for persons who are low-income.*

Performance Measurement: Of these 150 rental units for persons who are low-income, 25 units will be specifically targeted for persons who are very low-income.

***P Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year DED awarded \$2,216,879 to ten (10) local governments and non-profit housing organizations for the development of 84 rental units for persons who are low-income, of which 19 units were specifically awarded for persons who are very low income.*

■ Strategy Four

Support and facilitate an active and effective regional continuum of care planning and delivery system focusing on a comprehensive approach to housing and service delivery to people who are homeless and near homeless.

Objective #1: The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (HHSS) assumed the responsibility of the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) on September 1, 2001. Eligible organizations that serve Nebraska's homeless and near homeless will submit applications to HHSS. A review panel will recommend funding levels to the governor up to the total amount of each regional allocation. HHSS will distribute the NHAP funds utilizing a formula based on population and identified homeless needs within the NHAP regions.

Performance Measurement: Homeless shelters and their programs, including homeless prevention, client services, shelter operations, renovation/rehabilitation of shelters and other homeless shelter programs will be enhanced and better coordinated by sharing information through the Regional Continuum of Care (C of C) groups. Regional C of C groups also will result in improved collaboration with other programs that serve the homeless and near homeless. C of C groups also will provide best practices for streamlined and improved reporting. Additionally, C of C groups will provide valuable input on regional needs of the homeless and near-homeless populations.

***A Progress Report:** Each year the Department of Housing and Urban Development Emergency Shelter Grant Program funds are matched with the Nebraska Housing Shelter Assistance Trust Fund and awarded to agencies that collaborate to help people who are homeless and near homeless achieve maximum self-sufficiency in housing that is safe, affordable and appropriate for their needs.*

During the 2003-2004 grant cycle, these agencies collaborated to assist 28,105 individuals who were homeless and 43,134 individuals who were near homeless. This compares to last year reported figures of 18,755 individuals who were homeless and 26,506 individuals who were near homeless. The data reveal a 32 percent decrease in the number of homeless reported for regions one through five and a one hundred sixteen percent increase for the entitlement cities, Lincoln and Omaha. The decrease in regions one through five is attributed to more accurate unduplicated data reported by grantees. Other factors were considered, such as a decrease in population. However, while Lincoln and Omaha experienced population growth, there was not a corresponding decrease in population in the rest of the state.

*Another explanation is that the balance of the state assists more individuals and families who are **near homeless** while urban areas serve more people who are **homeless**. Regions one through five experienced a 33.9 percent increase in the number of **near homeless** assisted. Agencies may also be more accurate in ascertaining and reporting whether people are homeless or near homeless. Agencies in the balance of the state reflected a 1.9 percent increase in persons who were homeless **and** near homeless. **See Tables III and IV in Section six of this document for a breakdown by region.***

Program accomplishments of the past year include:

- *The NHAP advisory committee developed bylaws that will be adopted during the fourth quarter meeting of 2004;*
- *Technical assistance for organizational development was provided to three regional continuums of care by Kevin Kissenger of Dennison Associates (TA contracted by HUD);*
- *Technical assistance at the state level was provided to all continuums throughout the year;*
- *Summaries of Super NOFA debriefings, both general and regional, along with copies of each region's Exhibit 1, were sent to all continuum of care chairs/conveners for their review;*
- *The NHAP Web site was updated with information about NHAP, the history, purpose and funding priorities of NHAP, the history of the Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness, a list of agencies and programs funded by NHAP, and useful links. Regional continuum of care information is being updated and will be added to the Web site in August 2004.*

In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services participated, in the fall of 2003, in a Policy Academy hosted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Labor, the Veterans Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services. The purpose of the academy was to develop a ten-year plan to increase access to mainstream services and resources for people who are chronically homeless. During 2004, a broad-based planning team further developed the draft plan that was created during the policy academy. Continuums of care across the state are involved in and have representation on the planning team.

The plan includes goals, strategies, action steps, expected outcomes and benchmarks addressing all homelessness and near homelessness. The six goals are:

- 1) *Develop & establish a statewide initiative to lead Nebraskans in collaborative efforts to create strategies & initiatives that focus resources and efforts resulting in increased access to services, systems, and housing for persons experiencing chronic homelessness (and all homelessness & near homelessness)*
- 2) *Create Additional Appropriate and Supportive Housing Choices*
- 3) *Increase Access to Mainstream Services & Resources*
- 4) *Increase and Implement Strategies Addressing Prevention & Discharge Planning*
- 5) *Ensure Culturally Competent Services Across all Goals*
- 6) *Data Collection and Evaluation*

The development of a statewide plan on homelessness is even more critical as Nebraska implements behavioral health reform. Over the past year, 11 sub committees have worked on various issues related to LB 1083 – Behavioral Health Reform. Up to 2.0 million dollars will be available for rental assistance to ensure housing for individuals with serious mental illness. NHAP staff has been involved in the planning efforts around housing and

employment services for the seriously mentally ill. These teams have included state, local and consumer stakeholders in housing and supportive services for this targeted population. It is important to reflect this legislation in the state plan to help ensure homelessness does not increase as reform is implemented and to acknowledge the efforts being made to improve conditions through LB 1083 workgroups. Work on the draft plan to end homelessness continues and will be finalized by the end of 2004 or early 2005.

The objective for the next year is to finalize and adopt the plan and incorporate performance measures of the six goals into the consolidated plan or plan update.

Finally, NHAP staff will work with those responsible for administering the HOPWA grant. This is the first year of the HOPWA grant in Nebraska. NHAP program staff were involved in the development of the grant application. The NHAP advisory committee has a member representing HIV/AIDS and the HOPWA program. The NHAP staff will continue to support and assist when possible in the implementation of the plan in Nebraska. This includes but is not limited to assisting agencies serving HOPWA participants with Objective 2, data collection.

A new monthly NHAP report form was created to reflect information required by HUD for the ESG and IDIS reporting. The form is used by all continuums of care, including entitlement cities of Lincoln and Omaha. In 2003, grantees received aggregate reports (using data from the old report form) from the NHAP for the first time. Based on their review of the data, grantees were able to assess the quality of their data.

At the beginning of the July 1, 2003 grant cycle, the new monthly report form was adopted. Instructions were reviewed at regional continuum of care meetings. HHS staff continued to work with grantees throughout the grant year to ensure that data were more accurately and consistently reported. Data for the first six months of the 2003 grant cycle comparing homeless and near homeless figures to last year figures were distributed. Year-end figures are also distributed to continuums of care and grantees. Quality of data collected manually is a priority until the transition is made to a HMIS. With implementation of the Service Point HMIS, unduplicated counts are greatly enhanced.

The most significant accomplishment of 2004 was the implementation of a statewide Homeless Inventory Management System (HMIS) using Service Point. A system implemented by the Panhandle Partnership three years ago expanded when the Lincoln Continuum of Care joined the Panhandle server in October of 2003. In June of 2004, the pilot project for the Lincoln continuum of care issued their first unduplicated count, along with reports on characteristics, family type, and other factors. In July 2004, the Community Action of Nebraska organization voted to merge their Service Point system with this existing system. The merged system is a statewide system: the Nebraska Management Information System Partnership (NMISP). The NMISP is an independent affiliate of the Nebraska Community Foundation. Currently, members are developing bylaws as well as policies and procedures for the partnership. A statewide system will help insure unduplicated counts of people who are homeless and near homeless.

The objective for the next year is to expand implementation of the statewide HMIS. This is included in Goal 6 of the state plan on homelessness.

Objective #2: To further improve and foster interagency cooperation and participation, DED regional housing specialists will continue to communicate with the Regional C of C groups.

Performance Measurement: The applicable DED regional housing specialist will participate in at least one Regional C of C group meeting for each Regional C of C group represented in their service area. This participation will include sharing applicable affordable housing program information and other involvement as appropriate in the groups.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 Program year, DED regional housing specialists attended eight regional C of C group meetings. Information and involvement that was shared with the regional groups included: application guideline workshops, annual action plan updates and comment periods, funding sources and eligible activities, technical assistance, the “housing first” model, collaboration of partners, Presidents initiative for “ending chronic homelessness”, policy academy’s work on the statewide plan, and developing housing strategies.*

■ Strategy Five

Identify and address the barriers of homeownership, rental housing, support services, and shelters due to violations of fair housing practices.

A primary barrier to affordable housing in Nebraska is the availability of safe, decent, affordable housing, particularly to persons with extremely low-income and/or special housing needs, such as accessibility.

Objective #1: Invest DED AHP funds in assisting low-income Native American Nebraskans, a historically underserved population, with meeting their housing needs.

Performance Measurement: 20 low-income Native American Nebraskans will be targeted to be assisted partially through assistance from 2003 DED AHP funds.

***N Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year DED did not award funds to local governments and non-profit housing organizations to assist Native American Nebraskans.*

Objective #2: Invest DED AHP funds in assisting low-income persons with special needs, a historically underserved population, with meeting their housing needs.

Performance Measurement: 20 low-income persons with special needs will be targeted to be assisted partially through assistance from 2003 DED AHP.

***P Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year DED awarded \$608,060 to three (3) local governments and non-profit housing organizations to assist 20 low-income persons with special needs.*

Objective #3: Require DED grant recipients to take steps to affirmatively further fair housing.

Performance Measurement: 40 DED grantees will take additional steps locally to affirmatively further fair housing.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year 121 DED grants/loans were awarded with a special condition for grantees to affirmatively further fair housing.*

■ Strategy Six

Identify and address a strategy for reduction of lead-based paint hazards in rural areas of the state.

Objective #1: HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will implement a statewide Rural Lead-Based Paint Hazard Evaluation and Reduction Program.

Performance Measurement: HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will begin providing services in this program by January 1, 2003.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure approved 103 households to be assisted and completed lead reduction services to six (6) households through the Rural Lead-Based Paint Hazard Evaluation and Reduction Program.*

Objective #2: Increase the number of Certified Risk Assessors and Paint Inspectors.

Performance Measurement: There will be 15 risk assessors and paint inspectors serving rural Nebraska. HHSS – Department of Regulation and Licensure will track this with their certification list.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year 143 risk assessors and paint inspectors were licensed through HHSS Department of Regulation and Licensure to provide services in Nebraska*

Objective #3: Continue to educate and train DED AHP administrators and developers on lead-based paint hazards and responsibilities.

Performance Measurement: A certification program will be developed and implemented for housing rehabilitation specialists for the CDBG Housing Program. This will include training and strategies for addressing responsibilities related to lead-based paint hazards.

***P Progress Report:** During the 2003 Program year, DED received from HUD and distributed to housing service providers the following technical guides: The*

HOME Program Rehabilitation Tune-up Kit and Good Habits of a Highly Effective Rehabilitation Manager.

Performance Measurement: A Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Technical Guide on “Developing Program Guidelines for Homeowner Programs” will be created, including guidance on compliance and practices regarding lead-based paint regulations for CDBG and HOME.

A ***Progress Report:*** *During the 2003 Program year, DED received from HUD and distributed to housing service providers the following technical guides: The HOME Program Rehabilitation Tune-up Kit and Good Habits of a Highly Effective Rehabilitation Manager.*

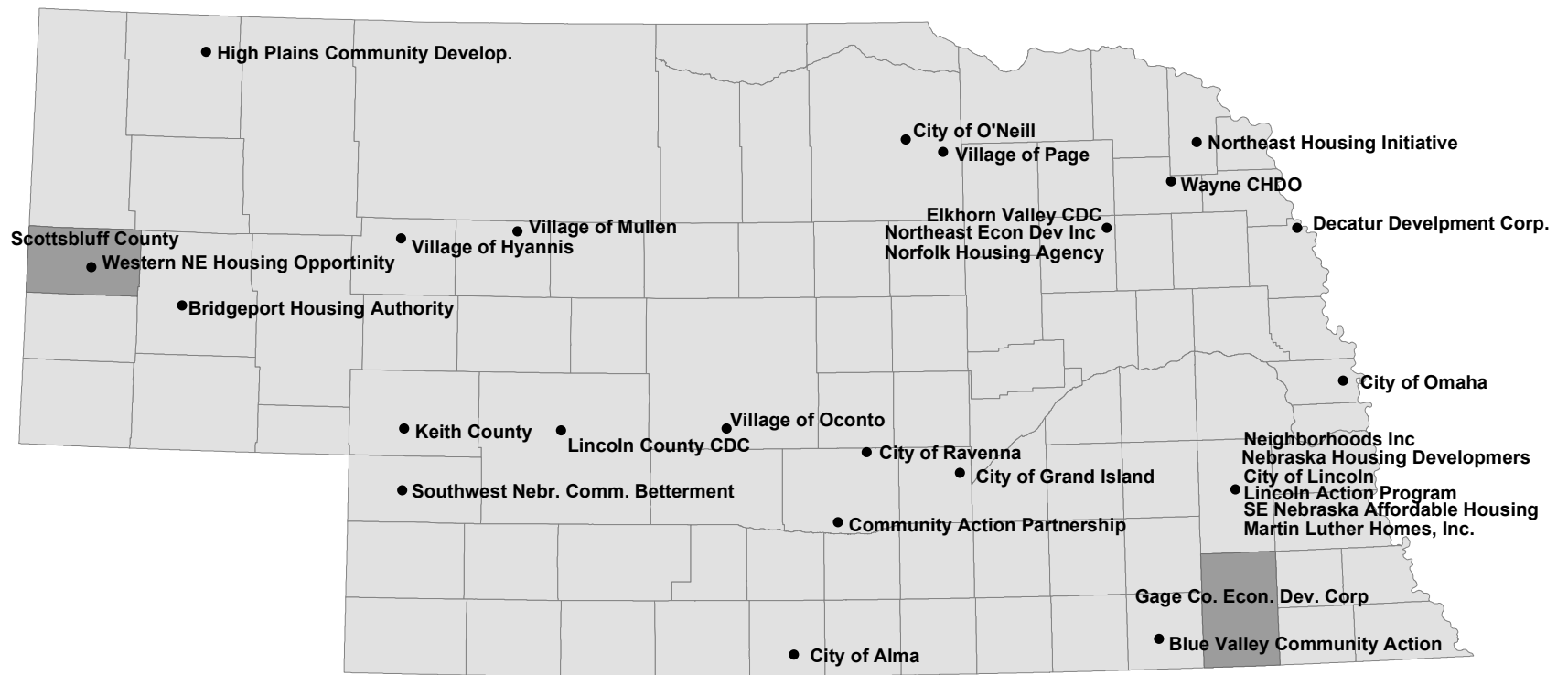
Nebraska Department of Economic Development 2003 Affordable Housing Program Awards

Project Number	Applicant	Description	Award Amount	Location of Award	Activity	# of units	# VLI units
03CH00103	Blue Valley Community Action	Rehabilitate SF Rental Homes	\$110,800	Fairbury	Rental	8	4
03CH02202	Lincoln County CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$310,000	North Platte	HB	10	
03CH02202	Lincoln County CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$310,000	North Platte	OOR	10	
03CH11502	High Plains Community Develop.	SF Home New Construction	\$172,200	Chadron	HB	2	
03CH11502	High Plains Community Develop.	SF Home New Construction	\$172,200	Chadron	Rental	2	0
03CH51202	Elkhorn Valley CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$400,000	Norfolk	HB	14	
03CH51202	Elkhorn Valley CDC	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$400,000	Norfolk	OOR	14	
03OE02202	Lincoln County CDC	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$100,000	North Platte	OOR	10	
03OE10202	Nebraska Housing Developers	Down Payment Assistance / Rehab	\$225,000	Lincoln	HB	8	
03OE10302	Bridgeport Housing Authority	MF Housing New Construction Rental	\$191,980	Bridgeport	Rental	6	2
03OE10402	Scottsbluff County	MF Housing New Construction Rental	\$191,080	Scottsbluff County	Rental	6	2
03OE20302	Northeast Econ. Dev., Inc	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$200,000	Norfolk	OOR	9	
03OE30502	Southwest Nebr. Comm. Betterment	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$200,000	Grant	OOR	10	
03OE40602	Community Action Partnership	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$150,000	Kearney	OOR	9	
03OE50102	Northeast Housing Initiative	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$400,000	Allen	HB	12	
03OE50102	Northeast Housing Initiative	Purchase/Rehab/Resell Program	\$400,000	Allen	OOR	12	
03OE50202	Northeast Econ. Dev., Inc	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$517,011	Norfolk	OOR	24	
03OE50602	Northeast Econ. Dev., Inc	Acquisition of Property, Housing	\$400,000	Norfolk	HB	26	
03OE50702	Decatur Development Corp.	SF Housing New Construction Rental	\$105,519	Decatur	Rental	4	0
03OE60102	Blue Valley Community Action	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$580,123	Fairbury	OOR	24	
03OE60202	Gage Co. Economic Dev. Corp.	SF Housing New Construction Rental	\$400,000	Gage County	Rental	10	0
03OE80102	Neighborhoods Inc.	Down Payment Assistance / Rehab	\$416,000	Lincoln	HB	30	
		TOTAL HOME ALLOCATIONS	\$6,351,913			260	8
03TFDH501	Northeast Econ. Dev., Inc.	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$116,000	Norfolk	OOR	5	
03TFDH601	Blue Valley Community Action	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$197,100	Fairbury	OOR	14	

Project Number	Applicant	Description	Award Amount	Location of Award	Activity	# of units	# VLI units
03TFHP204	Northeast Housing Initiative	SF Housing New Construction / Housing Rehab	\$200,000	Allen	HB	6	
03TFHP204	Northeast Housing Initiative	Purchase/Rehab/Resell	\$200,000	Allen	OOR	6	
03TFHP303	Keith County	SF Housing New Construction / Housing Rehab	\$56,000	Ogallala	HB	10	
03TFHP601	Lincoln Action Program	SF Housing New Construction / Housing Rehab	\$400,000	Lincoln	HB	18	
03TFRH201	Village of Page	SF Housing New Construction Rental	\$95,300	Page	Rental	2	0
03TFRH501	Norfolk Housing Agency	MF Housing New Construction Rental	\$400,000	Norfolk	Rental	24	1
03TFRH605	SE Nebraska Affordable Housing	SF Housing New Construction Rental	\$450,000	Lincoln	Rental	12	0
03TFRH607	Martin Luther Homes, Inc	New Construction SF Units	\$100,000	Lincoln	Rental	10	10
03TFTA103	Western NE Housing Opportunity	Technical Assistance	\$40,000	Gering		1	
03TFTA502	Wayne CHDO	Technical Assistance	\$40,000	Wayne		1	
03TFTA603	SE Nebraska Affordable Housing	Technical Assistance	\$40,000	Lincoln		1	
02TFHP701	City of Omaha	SF Housing New Construction / Housing Rehab	\$352,200	Omaha	HB	66	
02TFHP802	City of Lincoln	SF Housing New Construction / Housing Rehab	\$244,800	Lincoln	HB	51	
		TOTAL NAHTF ALLOCATIONS	\$2,931,400	\$0		227	11
03HO202	Village of Oconto	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$200,000	Oconto	OOR	9	
03HO303	Village of Mullen	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$215,725	Mullen	OOR	10	
03HO306	Village of Hyannis	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$208,800	Hyannis	OOR	9	
03HO403	City of Alma	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$150,000	Alma	OOR	8	
03HO404	City of Grand Island	Owner Occupied Rehab	\$270,400	Grand Island	OOR	10	
03HP201	City of O'Neill	Down Payment Assistance	\$200,000	O'Neill	HB	17	
03HP402	City of Ravenna	Down Payment Assistance	\$130,000	Ravenna	HB	10	
		TOTAL CDBG ALLOCATIONS	\$1,374,925			73	
		TOTAL AHP ALLOCATIONS	\$10,658,238				

2003 Nebraska Affordable Housing Program Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development



Section Three: Community Development Priority

*Strengthen Nebraska communities through
community development programs and services.*

Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

The four (4) five-year strategies developed to meet this priority are:

- **Assist communities and counties with strategic planning that results in long-term development investments**
- **Improve the quality of water and wastewater in Nebraska**
- **Assist in developing and financing appropriate infrastructure and facilities for communities and counties that have planned and set priorities for long-term community economic development projects and initiatives**
- **Strengthen technical assistance for community improvement**

Background

The following is a report on the activities the state plans to undertake during the next year to target non-housing community development problems in the four funding categories through which DED competitively allocates CDBG funds. Resources must be targeted to serious problems affecting the local economic base, public health, welfare, or safety. DED structures its community development CDBG allocations around four funding categories: water/wastewater, public works, tourism development, and planning. The types of projects funded, and the priorities and objectives for each category are listed in the state's Consolidated Plan. Lastly, the state has an obligation to more effectively coordinate its delivery system for community development programs, services, and funding.

For example, many rural Nebraska communities simply do not have facilities, such as community buildings, care centers, fire protection, and medical clinics. Because they are lacking in one or more of these facilities, the community is often in jeopardy of losing its economic base to nearby communities that can offer these services. Other communities may have these facilities, but have outgrown them, or the facilities have become economically obsolete. Another serious problem plaguing many rural communities involves water and sewer infrastructure, communities that lack public water/sewer systems or that have deteriorating facilities. Other communities have outgrown their water and wastewater systems. Some systems no longer meet the requirements set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency. Other equally serious problems with infrastructure exist. Communities also need to support their community attraction facilities that strengthen the economic development base.

State community development resources also must be directed toward problems that are resolvable.

- Applicants must show that work on their projects can be started promptly.
- Community development problems are serious compared with other problems identified in all the applications received.
- Projects will resolve community development problems in a reasonable period of time.

The CDBG Advisory Committee and the Economic Development Commission

CDBG strategies have resulted from more than 15 years of consultation with local communities and public comment. The selection criteria and priorities outlined in the CDBG section of this Action Plan also were developed with advice and consent of the CDBG Advisory Committee and the Nebraska Economic Development Commission. Priorities and strategies support the state's anti-poverty strategy of creating jobs with livable wages, and are directed toward both workers and employers. The efforts for workers include assuring that education, job training, and skill development programs adequately prepare them for the jobs that are available. The business efforts include providing economic assistance, tax credits, and loans that attract new firms; and retaining/expanding existing ones, especially businesses that hire low- and very low-income people.

Set up by state statute, the Nebraska Economic Development Commission provides leadership and advice to DED to strengthen Nebraska's position in the global economy. The commission consists of nine voting members (three each from Nebraska's three congressional districts) and the DED director (a non-voting member).

The CDBG Advisory Committee, created in 1986, regularly consults with DED regarding the state's CDBG Program. The committee helps determine community development objectives, state priorities, and fund distribution guidelines. Committee members are appointed by the Nebraska Economic Development Commission upon recommendation of DED.

Actions for the 2003 Program Year

The four community development strategies listed above each have objectives and measurements that were planned by the state for the 2003 program year. The objectives and performance measurements that were planned for the three economic development strategies are listed below along with a progress report detailing the headway made under each performance measurement during the 2003 program year. The following rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

A → Activity Exceeded Measurement
P → Performance Satisfied Measurement
R → Reasonable Progress Made
N → No Progress Made

■ **Strategy One**

Assist communities and counties with strategic planning that results in long-term development investments.

Objective #1: Invest CDBG funds in local and regional studies and plans that result in quality projects.

Performance Measurement: Up to \$545,874 of the 2003 annual CDBG allocation will be awarded for local and regional plans. The state will invest in 15 local and regional projects by June 30, 2004, that impact the implementation of economic development, community development and housing projects.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year, the state awarded \$544,800 in CDBG funds to 31 local governments for the development and implementation of local and regional plans. These projects will impact economic development, community development and housing projects.*

Objective #2: Invest CDBG funds in technical assistance and training to local government officials for building capacity in the management and implementation of community planning.

Performance Measurement: up to \$141,720 of the 2003 CDBG funds will be allocated to these activities. The number of training sessions offered and attendees will be tracked annually for program benefit. The state will provide technical assistance to local planning officials. This assistance will include the continuation of Internet based training implemented by June 30, 2004. The state will provide four technical assistance workshops during the program year to local grant administrators. The state also will further establish on-line tools for web site access and document submission and reporting by June 30, 2004.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year, the Department independently continued implementation of the CDBG Certified Administrators Program. The Department contracted with the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) to provide training on planning issues for local officials statewide. The Department in collaboration with the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the*

University Division of Continuing Studies has developed a distance-learning project built on the Planning Commission Fundamentals Handbook. The continued development of an on-line training through a web-site access is under construction.

The Department provided three training sessions to 132 registrants that included environmental, CDBG administration for Labor Standards, and CDBG Compliance Monitoring preparation for building capacity of local officials and administrators in the implementation of the CDBG Program. The Nebraska Chapter APA in collaboration with the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association and the Nebraska Lied Main Street Program conducted a 3-day statewide institute on land use management issues attended by more than 220 persons. Those in attendance represented several communities preparing and implementing planning projects funded through CDBG Program. The University of Nebraska Division of Continuing Studies demonstrated the Nebraska Planning Handbook site to those in attendance. The handbook is now available at: <http://neplanning.unl.edu>. The online capabilities of the handbook allow for it to be continually updated and maintained.

Objective #3: Promote and implement NCIP to assist and recognize efforts in community organizing, leadership development and project implementation.

Performance Measurement: Approximately 70 communities will participate in the 2003 Nebraska Community Improvement Program.

***A** Progress Report:* Ninety-two (92) communities participated in the 2003 Nebraska Community Improvement Program. Seventy-five (75) awards were presented to more than 60 communities and individuals at a statewide recognition event.

Objective #4: Encourage private sector involvement in the Community Development Assistance Act.

Performance Measurement: Track information to ensure that 100% of the CDAA tax credits allocated are used or claimed.

***A** Progress Report:* During the 2003 program year, DED awarded \$203,900 of CDAA tax credits. A total of 9 projects were implemented utilizing CDAA tax credits.

■ Strategy Two

Improve the quality of water and wastewater in Nebraska.

Objective #1: Use a coordinated application process to fund priority projects that leverage other available financial resources and are ready to promptly start and complete construction within 24 months. The coordinated application process is done between the following federal and state agencies: U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality and Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

Performance Measurement: Approximately 50 pre-applications will be reviewed and up to eight projects will be funded by CDBG. It is estimated that approximately \$1.9 million in CDBG funds will be invested in these water/wastewater projects leveraging \$2 million in other public and private funds. If deemed necessary, appropriate changes will be made to the coordinated application process.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year the multi-agency Water Wastewater Advisory Committee reviewed 40 pre-applications. Eleven (11) were invited to submit CDBG applications and were received and awarded during the year totaling \$2,510,656 in CDBG funds and leveraged \$8.5 million in other public and private funds.*

■ Strategy Three

Assist in developing and financing appropriate infrastructure for communities and counties that have planned and set priorities for long-term community economic development.

Objective #1: Invest CDBG funds in quality projects that are identified in a formal community plan; compliment or support related community investments; leverage maximum private and/or other investment; have reasonable plans for long-term operation and maintenance; and are ready to start and complete construction within 24 months.

Performance Measurement: Approximately eight projects will be funded annually leveraging up to \$3.2 million in other public and private funds.

***A Progress Report:** Sixteen (16) public works projects were awarded totaling \$3,760,650 in CDBG funds and leveraging \$3,537,514 million in other public and private funds.*

Objective #2: Evaluate the application, review, ranking, and selection process and make necessary changes for improvement.

Performance Measurement: Continue to improve DED's website capabilities for application guidelines and forms. Determine the capacity of local governments to transmit applications electronically. Continue to improve application process through June 30, 2004.

***A Progress Report:** During the 2003 program year, DED's, CRD Division website was evaluated and revised to be more user efficient for external customers. Program administration forms are available on the CRD website. Scoring criteria for community development programs were evaluated and significant revisions were implemented including a pre-application process for Public Works projects, and two components (engineering and project implementation) were implemented for Water Waste Water Projects. Electronic application transmittal is still under investigation.*

■ Strategy Four

Strengthen technical assistance for community improvement.

Objective #1: Identify and develop resources to assist communities in community organizing, leadership development, funding sources and project implementation.

Performance Measurement: Maintain partnerships with other funding providers to help leverage dollars for community projects. Develop or update a Project Networking Guide and a Foundation Resource Directory. Investigate the feasibility of an interactive web site and community level databases and issue a report by June 30, 2004. Provide up to 1% of annual CDBG allocation for training opportunities that will build capacity at the local level. Support NCIP, Certification Workshops and Modules, Community Planning Training, Technical Assistance Application Workshops, Nebraska Clerks School, Environmental and Lead-based Paint Training.

***A Progress Report:** The Project Networking Guide was developed and placed on the NCIP website and distributed to communities statewide via mail and handouts at meetings. The Foundation Resource Directory and Nebraska Resource Directories were updated and placed on the CRD Website as well as distributed to communities at regional workshops, meetings and conferences. In addition, CDBG projects were researched for success stories. CDBG success stories were added to the CRD website as a resource for local governments and other community organizations.*

In 2003, NCIP hosted 15 regional workshops and community development training, assisting more than 50 communities statewide. The workshops provided technical assistance to communities for the

NCIP Program and to assist communities in starting or continuing community development organizations with an emphasis in targeting grass roots volunteers. The Community Development Training included full and half-day sessions at 10 regional locations, to train community leaders in the areas of strategic planning, needs assessment, resource identification, partnering and working with investors.

Three (3) certification trainings were held during the program year. Topics for the trainings included the all-inclusive certification and re-certification, environmental, construction/labor standards, and record keeping and preparation for monitoring. Over 122 people attended these trainings and over 80 individual communities and organizations were represented.

Department staff conducted five (5) technical assistance application workshops during the 2003 program year. The workshops were conducted in Lincoln, Hastings, Norfolk, North Platte, and Bridgeport.

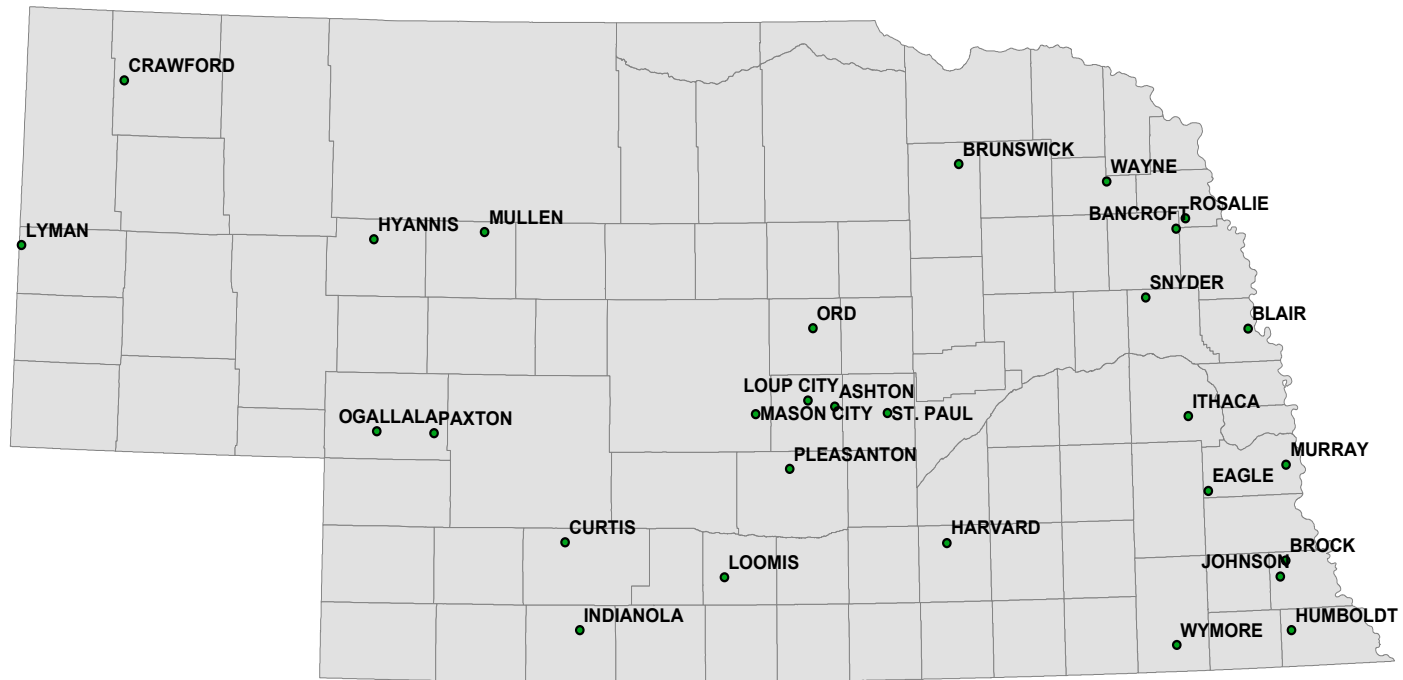
The Department contracted with the Nebraska Municipal Clerks Academy to provide assistance to conduct the Nebraska Municipal Clerks Institute. Clerks from local governments who apply for, receive, and administer CDBG program funds were in attendance.

**Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program
2003 Awards Planning Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Project Activities	Amount Awarded
03PP001	City of Ord	Downtown business renovation/improve study	\$25,000
03PP002	Village of Murray	Comprehensive Plan Zoning Subdivision Reg.	\$17,300
03PP004	City of St. Paul	Community Redevelopment Plan	\$13,800
03PP005	Village of Eagle	Housing Market Study	\$9,500
03PP006	Village of Johnson	Entrepreneurial & Small Business Study	\$39,300
03PP007	City of Wayne	Housing Market Study	\$9,500
03PP008	Village of Pleasanton	Flood Mitigation Study	\$12,000
03PP009	Village of Brunswick	Infrastructure Mapping	\$3,500
03PP011	Village of Hyannis	CD Inventory & Needs Assessment Study	\$40,000
03PP012	Village of Lyman	Community assessment network guide	\$25,000
03PP013	City of Crawford	Organizing for economic development	\$10,000
03PP015	Village of Mullen	Economic strategies entrepreneur development	\$25,000
03PP017	City of St. Paul	Strategic plan economic development	\$10,000
03PP018	Village of Paxton	Strategic plan youth retention/labor market	\$25,000
03PP020	Village of Mason City	Water system study	\$15,500
03PP021	Village of Ashton	Sanitary sewer system study	\$22,500
03PP023	Village of Eagle	Blight Study for Tax Increment Financing	\$8,000
03PP024	City of Blair	CBD Water Sewer Study	\$25,000
03PP025	Village of Snyder	Housing Market Study	\$7,500
03PP026	Village of Bancroft	Housing Market Study	\$7,500
03PP028	Village of Rosalie	Water Wastewater System Study	\$12,000
03PP029	City of Harvard	Harvard Courts Master Plan	\$25,000
03PP030	City of Wymore	Community Redevelopment Plan	\$15,500
03PP031	Village of Brock	SEND Community Action Plans (14)	\$40,000
03PP032	Village of Ithaca	Drainage Improvement Study	\$15,200
03PP033	City of Ogallala	Section 504 & ADA Plan	\$25,000
03PP034	City of Humboldt	Town Square CBD Infrastructure Study	\$6,800
03PP035	Village of Loomis	Sanitary Sewer Study	\$7,900
03PP036	City of Loup City	Comprehensive Plan Update	\$12,500
03PP037	City of Indianola	Sanitary Sewer Study	\$9,000
03PP038	City of Curtis	Community asset mapping economic linkages	\$25,000
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$544,800

2003 CDBG Planning Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program

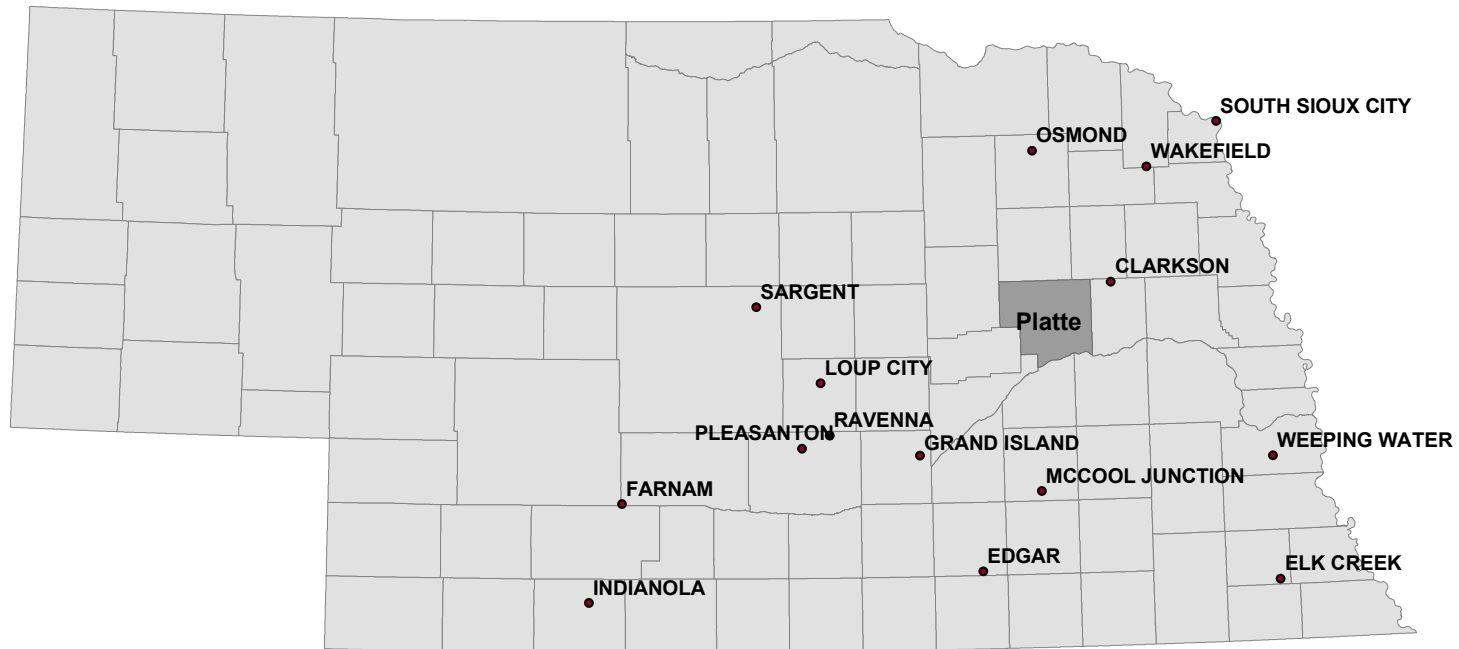


**Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program
2003 Awards Public Works Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Project Activities	Amount Awarded
03PW001	City of Clarkson	Street Improvements	\$250,000
03PW004	Village of Farnam	Fire Truck	\$109,000
03PW005	City of South Sioux City	Street Improvements	\$242,050
03PW008	City of Weeping Water	Street Improvements	\$250,000
03PW010	Village of McCool Junction	Storm Sewers	\$249,600
03PW011	Village of Elm Creek	Fire Station	\$250,000
03PW012	City of Loup City	Street Improvements	\$114,700
03PW013	City of Ravenna	Street Improvements	\$250,000
03PW014	Village of Pleasanton	Street Improvements	\$105,700
03PW015	City of Indianola	Fire Station	\$239,600
03PW016	Platte County	Health Care Clinic	\$350,000
03PW017	City of Grand Island	Senior Center	\$350,000
03PW018	City of Edgar	Community Center	\$250,000
03PW020	City of Osmond	Street Improvements	\$250,000
03PW021	City of Sargent	Community Center	\$250,000
03PW024	City of Wakefield	Library	\$250,000
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$3,760,650

2003 CDBG Public Works Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program



**Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program
2003 Awards Water / Wastewater Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Project Activities	Amount Awarded
02WW006	Village of Salem	Distribution System Upgrade	\$250,000
03WW001	Village of Guide Rock	Connection to Rural Water District	\$250,000
03WW002	Village of Paxton	Wastewater Treatment	\$250,000
03WW003	Village of Pender	Water Storage Tank	\$250,000
03WW004	Village of DeWitt	New Wells & Transmission Pipe	\$250,000
03WW005	Village of Scotia	Water System	\$250,000
03WW006	City of Arapahoe	Water Source Treatment	\$250,000
03WW007	City of Madison	Construction of Wastewater Treatment Facility	\$250,000
03WW008	Village of Ruskin	Rehab Existing Wastewater System	\$250,000
03WW009	Village of Howells	Expand Existing Wastewater Treatment Facility	\$182,500
03WW010	Village of Nickerson	Water/Wastewater Treatment Facility	\$78,156
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$2,510,656

2003 CDBG Water / Wastewater Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program

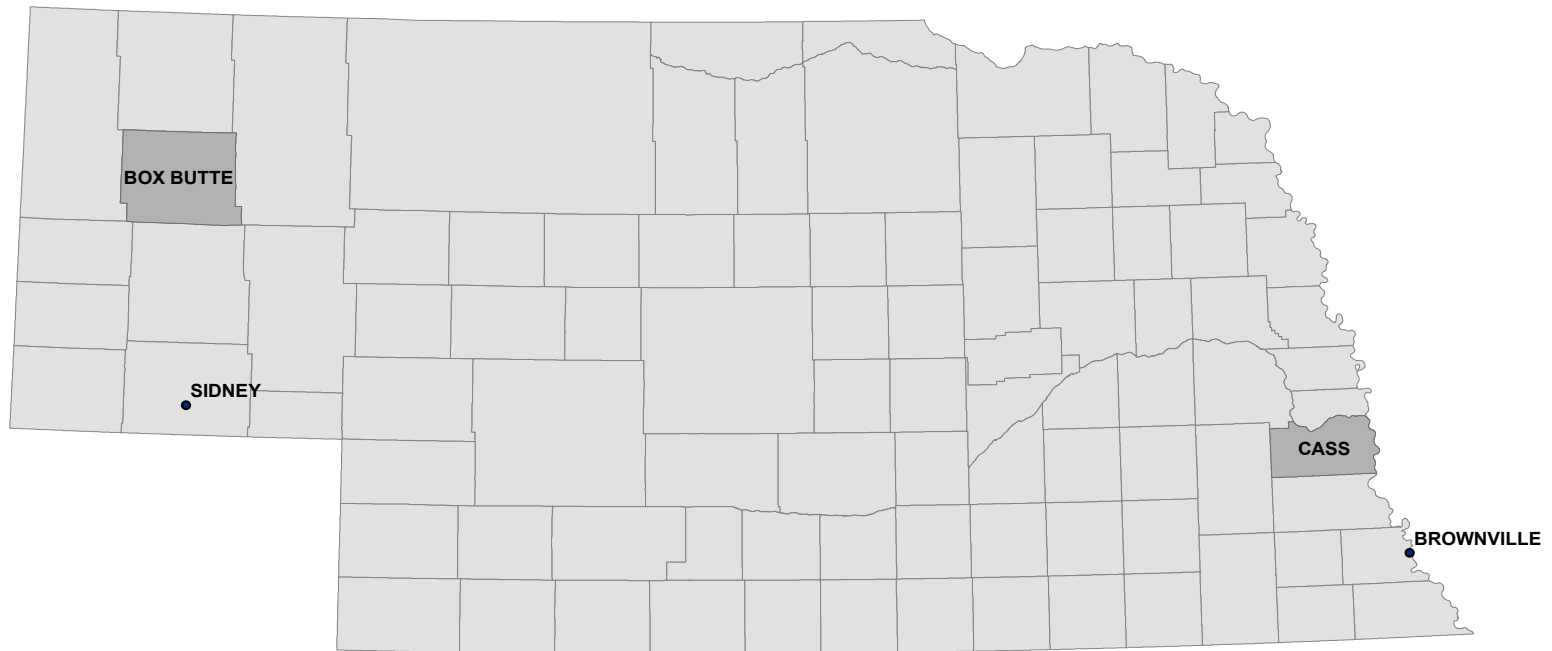


**Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program
2003 Awards Tourism Development Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Project Activities	Amount Awarded
03TD001	City of Sidney	Recreational sporting facility	\$107,000
03TD002	Box Butte Development Corporation	Architectural barrier removal and construction	\$55,000
03TD005	Village of Brownville	Historic Archives Center & Booktown Reconstruction	\$102,700
03TD006	Cass County	Museum grounds improvements	\$73,500
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$338,200

2003 CDBG Tourism Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program



Section Four: Economic Development

*Develop economic opportunities by keeping
Nebraska's industries, people and places competitive.*

Strategies, Objectives & Measurements

The three (3) five-year strategies developed to meet this priority are:

- Keep Nebraska's Industries Competitive
- Keep Nebraska's Places Competitive
- Keep Nebraska's People Competitive

Background

The primary objective of this priority is to develop viable communities and counties by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- to moderate-income (LMI) persons. The state CDBG objective of the Economic Development category is to support businesses that expand the state's economic base and create quality jobs for persons in the low-and moderate-income levels.

The following is a report on the activities the state plans to undertake during the next year to target economic development activities for CDBG funds. The CDBG allocations for economic development are structured around economic and business development. Resources must be addressed to serious problems affecting the local economic base. These include loss of population in 70 of 93 counties and inequitable distribution of income in the metro and non-metro areas.

The Economic Development Commission and CDBG Advisory Committee

CDBG strategies result from more than 15 years of consultation with local communities and public comment. The selection criteria and priorities outlined in the Economic Development section of this Action Plan also were developed with advice of the Nebraska Economic Development Commission, as well as the CDBG Program Advisory Committee. Priorities and strategies support the state's anti-poverty strategy of creating jobs with livable wages, and are directed toward both workers and employers. The efforts for workers include assuring that education, job training, and skill development programs adequately prepare them for the jobs that are available. The business efforts include providing economic assistance, tax credits, and loans that attract new firms; retain/expand existing firms - especially businesses that hire low and moderate income people; and assistance for new businesses and entrepreneurs.

Set up by state statute, the Nebraska Economic Development Commission provides leadership and advice to DED to strengthen Nebraska's position in the global economy. The Commission consists of nine voting members (three each from Nebraska's three congressional districts) and the DED director (as non-voting member).

The CDBG Program Advisory Committee, created in 1986, regularly consults with DED regarding the state's CDBG Program. The committee helps determine community development objectives, state priorities, and fund distribution guidelines. The Nebraska Economic Development Commission upon recommendation of DED appoints committee members.

Actions for the 2003 Program Year

The three economic development strategies listed above each have objectives and measurements that were planned by the state for the 2003 program year. The objectives and performance measurements that were planned for the three economic development strategies are listed below along with a progress report detailing the headway made under each performance measurement during the 2003 program year. The following rating system is used to evaluate the measurements that were accomplished during the program year:

A → Activity Exceeded Measurement

P → Performance Satisfied Measurement

R → Reasonable Progress Made

N → No Progress Made

■ **Strategy One**

Keep Nebraska's Industries Competitive

Objective #1: Expand value-added agriculture by providing technical services, job training opportunities, and financial assistance to existing and new businesses.

Performance Measurement: DED computer tracking system will identify the number of businesses served annually. Approximately four business loans will be made by June 30, 2004.

R ***Progress Report:** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, four communities received technical assistance for value added agricultural businesses, of which two communities received financial assistance for business loans and job training in the amount of \$619,000.*

Objective #2: Diversify manufacturing companies through job training and providing technical and financial assistance to businesses statewide.

Performance Measurement: DED computer tracking system will identify the number of businesses served annually with technical and financial assistance. Services will be provided to approximately 20 businesses by June 30, 2004.

A ***Progress Report:** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, 52 businesses statewide were provided with technical and/or financial assistance by NDED.*

■ **Strategy Two**
Keep Nebraska's Places Competitive

Objective #1: Strengthen economic capacity of communities by funding economic development projects that benefit businesses. Businesses will use funds to invest in equipment, working capital and facilities to create or retain jobs.

Performance Measurement: Approximately 400 jobs will be created or retained during the period July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004. The DED computer tracking system will identify the number of communities, businesses and individuals served during the 2003 Program Year.

P ***Progress Report:** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, fifteen (15) economic development projects were awarded CDBG funds totaling \$5,069,400. 346 jobs were created or retained as a result of these projects, which leveraged an additional \$46,457,495 in other funds.*

Objective #2: Strengthen capacity of communities for business attraction through investment in speculative buildings.

Performance Measurement: By June 30, 2004, invest through the speculative building program with partners and Nebraska communities in funding a minimum \$1 million in constructing new or rehabilitating existing buildings to be used as speculative buildings.

N ***Progress Report:** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, no speculative building investment projects occurred.*

■ **Strategy Three**
Keep Nebraska's People Competitive

Objective #1: Invest in communities that support businesses and its citizens, especially low- and moderate-income persons, in entrepreneurial opportunities.

Performance Measurement: The DED computer tracking system will identify the number of low and moderate income individuals assisted with entrepreneurial opportunities. Services will be provided to approximately 100 low and moderate persons.

A ***Progress Report:*** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, through investment in a rural entrepreneurial supporting sub-grantee, the following entrepreneurial support was provided:

- ♦ *Direct loans to 23 entrepreneur businesses*
- ♦ *Assistance in preparing comprehensive business plans for 118 entrepreneurs*
- ♦ *Partnering with other lenders in loan packages for 22 entrepreneur businesses*

Objective #2: Support businesses and economic development focused activities that use information and telecommunications technologies.

Performance Measurement: Approximately three communities will be targeted for investment by June 30, 2004.

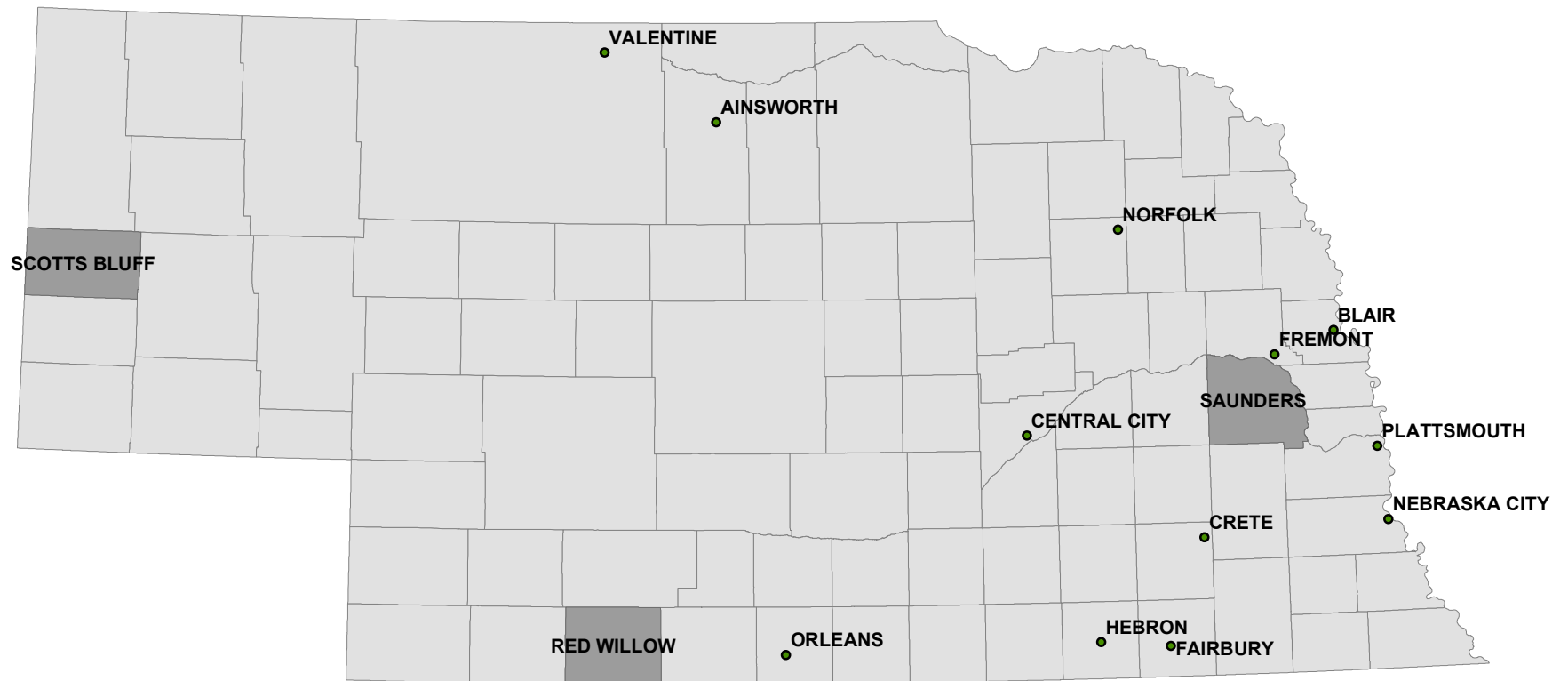
P ***Progress Report:*** During the program year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004, two communities received CDBG awards where the supported business was an information technology business or a telecommunications technology business.

**Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program
2003 Awards
Economic Development Category**

Project Number	Applicant	Benefitting Business	Amount Awarded
02-ED-030	Fairbury	Crossroads Building Products, Inc.	\$ 429,400
02-ED-034	Hebron	Metalquest Unlimited, Inc.	\$ 33,000
02-ED-035	Valentine	Radiant Systems, Inc.	\$ 186,000
02-ED-036	Nebraska City	REAP	\$ 400,000
02-ED-038	Ainsworth	Technologent	\$ 505,000
02-ED-039	Plattsmouth	New Idea, Inc.	\$ 245,000
02-ED-043	Crete	Nestle Purina PetCare Co.	\$ 505,000
03-ED-001	Scottsbluff County	Westward Airways, Inc.	\$ 65,000
03-ED-004	Orleans	Mama's Salsa, Inc.	\$ 205,000
03-ED-007	Central City	Biovance Technologies, Inc.	\$ 506,000
03-ED-008	Red Willow County	21st Century Systems, Inc.	\$ 180,000
03-ED-011	Fremont	Southwark Metal Mfg. Co.	\$ 505,000
03-ED-012	Blair	Cargill, Inc. & Cargill Polyols LLC	\$ 505,000
03-ED-013	Saunders County	Advanced Bldg&Components, Inc.	\$ 385,000
03-ED-015	Norfolk	Protient, Inc.	\$ 415,000
		TOTAL CDBG AWARDED	\$ 5,069,400

2003 CDBG Economic Development Awards

Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Community Development Block Grant Program



Section Five:
HOME PROGRAM REPORT

HOME Program Performance Report

Analysis of Consolidated Plan HOME Strategies

HOME funds were distributed according to the different categories identified on pages 3-2 to 3-8 of the State of Nebraska 2003 approved Consolidated Annual Action Plan.

Results of On-Site Inspections of Affordable Rental Housing

Forty-one (41) inspections of affordable rental housing projects were conducted during the 2003 program year. All projects met minimum property standards at the time of the visit.

Thirty-five (35) rental projects met compliance with occupancy requirements. Department staff is working towards compliance with the other rental projects. Additional training and on-site visits are planned.

Affirmative Marketing and Minority Outreach

We are continuing to pursue information and assistance in this area. DED Affordable Housing Program fund recipient program guidelines are reviewed to provide assistance on affirmative marketing strategies. All DED designated CHDOs are required to have an affirmative marketing plan. Finally, DED makes available the Directory to Historically Underutilized Businesses to all recipients and applicants for reference in soliciting minority and women owned businesses for work. This guide is also used when DED publishes a Request for Proposals when contracting special projects.

The outreach effort for Minority, Women and Disabled Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE/DBE) includes a requirement to solicit responses to Requests for Proposals and bids from such entities by state recipients as part of their procurement process. A state recipient must have an approved procurement process and monitoring is done by staff to insure that the recipient is following their approved process. Monitoring of recipients also reviews the characteristics of bidders, both accepted and denied. DED provides a directory by trades/services of MBE/WBE/DBE firms (which are historically underutilized businesses (HUB)). Each grantee can request a statewide HUB Directory, and is encouraged to use the directory for HOME projects and in non-HOME related procurement.

Part III Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year 2003								
1. Project Number or Other ID	2. Date of Contribution	3. Cash (non-Federal sources)	4. Forgone, Taxes, Fees, Charges	5. Appraised Land/Real Property	6. Required Infrastructure	7. Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated Labor	8. Bond Financing	Total Match
00-TFHP-201A	10/1/2002	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-201B	10/1/2002	\$ 17,119.00						\$ 17,119.00
00-TFATP-001A	10/1/2002	\$ 9,460.00						\$ 9,460.00
00-TFATP-001B	10/1/2002	\$ 5,800.00						\$ 5,800.00
00-TFATP-001C	10/1/2002	\$ 8,619.00						\$ 8,619.00
00-TFATP-001D	10/1/2002	\$ 13,636.00						\$ 13,636.00
555-6-1661	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
555-5-1660	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
555-4-1659	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
555-3-1658	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
555-2-1657	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
555-1-1656	7/10/2002	\$ 4,213.00						\$ 4,213.00
00-TFATP-001E	10/3/2002	\$ 10,866.00						\$ 10,866.00
00-TFHP-103A	12/3/2002	\$ 6,872.93						\$ 6,872.93
00-TFHP-103B	12/3/2002	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-103C	12/3/2002	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
00-TFHP-103D	3/26/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
99-TFHP-706A	12/5/2002	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701E	12/5/2002	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
99-TFHP-706B	3/26/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
99-TFHP-706C	3/26/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701D	7/18/2003	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-701A	12/5/2002	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
99-TFHP-706D	12/5/2002	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
00-TFSD-102A	12/5/2002	\$ 3,000.00						\$ 3,000.00
00-TFHP-701C	12/5/2002	\$ 11,500.00						\$ 11,500.00
00-TFHP-701EE	3/26/2003	\$ 12,000.00						\$ 12,000.00
99-TFHP-706E	3/26/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00

00-TFHP-701VV	4/8/2003	\$ 1,793.00						\$ 1,793.00
00-TFHP-701F	12/5/2002	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-701G	12/5/2002	\$ 3,936.00						\$ 3,936.00
00-TFHP-701H	12/5/2002	\$ 666.00						\$ 666.00
00-TFHP-701I	12/5/2002	\$ 2,435.00						\$ 2,435.00
00-TFHP-701J	12/5/2002	\$ 3,194.00						\$ 3,194.00
00-TFHP-701K	12/5/2002	\$ 1,260.00						\$ 1,260.00
00-TFHP-701L	12/5/2002	\$ 6,583.00						\$ 6,583.00
00-TFHP-701M	12/5/2002	\$ 198.00						\$ 198.00
00-TFHP-701N	12/5/2002	\$ 360.00						\$ 360.00
00-TFHP-701O	12/5/2002	\$ 847.00						\$ 847.00
00-TFHP-701P	12/5/2002	\$ 234.00						\$ 234.00
00-TFHP-701Q	12/5/2002	\$ 1,790.00						\$ 1,790.00
00-TFHP-701R	12/5/2002	\$ 409.00						\$ 409.00
00-TFHP-701S	12/5/2002	\$ 1,650.00						\$ 1,650.00
00-TFHP-701T	12/5/2002	\$ 4,167.00						\$ 4,167.00
00-TFHP-701U	12/5/2002	\$ 6,241.00						\$ 6,241.00
00-TFHP-701V	12/5/2002	\$ 654.00						\$ 654.00
00-TFHP-701W	12/5/2002	\$ 1,554.00						\$ 1,554.00
00-TFHP-701X	12/5/2002	\$ 5,000.00						\$ 5,000.00
00-TFHP-701Z	12/5/2002	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
01-TFHP-701A	12/5/2002	\$ 12,000.00						\$ 12,000.00
00-TFHP-103M	3/14/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
02-TFHP-308A	3/14/2003	\$ 5,000.00						\$ 5,000.00
00-TFATP-001F	3/14/2003	\$ 14,285.00						\$ 14,285.00
01-TFATP-001G	3/14/2003	\$ 13,636.00						\$ 13,636.00
02-TFHP-308B	3/14/2003	\$ 5,000.00						\$ 5,000.00
00-TFHP-203A	3/14/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203B	3/14/2003	\$ 3,425.00						\$ 3,425.00
00-TFHP-203C	3/14/2003	\$ 9,400.00						\$ 9,400.00
01-TFATP-001H	3/14/2003	\$ 14,285.00						\$ 14,285.00
01-TFATP-001I	3/14/2003	\$ 13,305.00						\$ 13,305.00
01-TFATP-001J	3/14/2003	\$ 13,636.00						\$ 13,636.00

00-TFHP-701AA	3/14/2003	\$ 47,500.00					\$ 47,500.00
00-TFHP-103E	3/14/2003	\$ 3,540.00					\$ 3,540.00
00-TFATP-001K	3/14/2003	\$ 14,285.00					\$ 14,285.00
00-TFHP-701BB	3/14/2003	\$ 12,000.00					\$ 12,000.00
00-TFHP-701CC	3/14/2003	\$ 10,000.00					\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701FF	3/26/2003	\$ 10,000.00					\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701GG	3/26/2003	\$ 2,148.00					\$ 2,148.00
00-TFHP-701HH	3/26/2003	\$ 1,360.00					\$ 1,360.00
00-TFHP-701II	3/26/2003	\$ 1,504.00					\$ 1,504.00
00-TFHP-701JJ	3/27/2003	\$ 1,457.00					\$ 1,457.00
00-TFHP-701KK	3/28/2003	\$ 1,927.00					\$ 1,927.00
00-TFHP-701LL	3/29/2003	\$ 1,557.00					\$ 1,557.00
00-TFHP-701MM	3/30/2003	\$ 1,680.00					\$ 1,680.00
00-TFHP-701NN	3/31/2003	\$ 2,990.00					\$ 2,990.00
00-TFHP-701OO	4/1/2003	\$ 1,365.00					\$ 1,365.00
00-TFHP-701PP	4/2/2003	\$ 462.00					\$ 462.00
00-TFHP-701QQ	4/3/2003	\$ 1,150.00					\$ 1,150.00
00-TFHP-701RR	4/4/2003	\$ 1,355.00					\$ 1,355.00
00-TFHP-701SS	4/5/2003	\$ 5,186.00					\$ 5,186.00
00-TFHP-701TT	4/6/2003	\$ 458.00					\$ 458.00
00-TFHP-701UU	4/7/2003	\$ 5,226.00					\$ 5,226.00
00-TFHP-701WW	4/9/2003	\$ 2,000.00					\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-701XX	4/10/2003	\$ 2,000.00					\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-701YY	4/11/2003	\$ 2,000.00					\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-701ZZ	4/12/2003	\$ 2,000.00					\$ 2,000.00
01-TFHP-701C	4/9/2003	\$ 10,000.00					\$ 10,000.00
01-TFHP-701D	4/22/2003	\$ 10,466.00					\$ 10,466.00
00-TFHP-701DD	7/18/2003	\$ 1,534.00					\$ 1,534.00
00-TFHP-103F	5/1/2003	\$ 3,540.00					\$ 3,540.00
01-TFHP-403C	4/3/2003	\$ 20,000.00					\$ 20,000.00
01-TFHP-403D	4/3/2003	\$ 9,472.00					\$ 9,472.00
01-TFHP-403E	4/3/2003	\$ 20,000.00					\$ 20,000.00
01-TFHP-403F	4/3/2003	\$ 20,000.00					\$ 20,000.00

01-TFHP-403G	4/3/2003	\$ 19,971.00						\$ 19,971.00
01-TFHP-403H	4/3/2003	\$ 19,999.00						\$ 19,999.00
01-TFHP-403I	4/3/2003	\$ 20,000.00						\$ 20,000.00
01-TFHP-403J	4/3/2003	\$ 20,000.00						\$ 20,000.00
00-TFHP-701BBB	4/2/2003	\$ 12,000.00						\$ 12,000.00
00-TFHP-701CCC	4/2/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
01-TFHP-403K	5/8/2003	\$ 9,475.00						\$ 9,475.00
01-TFHP-403L	5/8/2003	\$ 18,480.00						\$ 18,480.00
01-TFHP-403M	5/22/2003	\$ 9,475.00						\$ 9,475.00
01-TFHP-403N	5/22/2003	\$ 19,999.00						\$ 19,999.00
01-TFHP-403O	5/22/2003	\$ 9,475.00						\$ 9,475.00
00-TFHP-701TTT	6/2/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
01-TFHP-701G	6/2/2003	\$ 10,000.00						\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701Y	7/18/2003	\$ 2,000.00						\$ 2,000.00
00-TFHP-103G	5/29/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
00-TFHP-103H	5/29/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
00-TFHP-103I	5/29/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
00-TFHP-103J	5/29/2003	\$ 5,964.50						\$ 5,964.50
00-TFHP-103K	5/29/2003	\$ 8,357.00						\$ 8,357.00
00-TFHP-203D	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203E	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203F	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203G	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203H	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203I	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203J	6/4/2003	\$ 4,433.27						\$ 4,433.27
00-TFHP-203K	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203L	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203M	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203N	6/4/2003	\$ 9,370.97						\$ 9,370.97
00-TFHP-203O	6/4/2003	\$ 15,502.07						\$ 15,502.07
00-TFHP-203P	6/4/2003	\$ 13,000.00						\$ 13,000.00
00-TFHP-203Q	6/4/2003	\$ 9,425.40						\$ 9,425.40

00-TFHP-203R	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00					\$ 15,000.00
00--TFHP-203S	6/4/2003	\$ 14,572.27					\$ 14,572.27
00-TFHP-203T	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00					\$ 15,000.00
00-TFHP-203U	6/4/2003	\$ 13,500.00					\$ 13,500.00
00-TFHP-203V	6/4/2003	\$ 15,000.00					\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-403P	6/10/2003	\$ 19,940.00					\$ 19,940.00
01-TFATP-001K	7/11/2003	\$ 13,057.00					\$ 13,057.00
01-TFATP-001L	7/11/2003	\$ 13,636.00					\$ 13,636.00
01-TFATP-001M	7/11/2003	\$ 5,340.00					\$ 5,340.00
01-TFATP-001N	7/11/2003	\$ 13,550.00					\$ 13,550.00
00-TFHP-701DDD	7/14/2003	\$ 12,000.00					\$ 12,000.00
00-TFHP-701EEE	7/14/2003	\$ 10,000.00					\$ 10,000.00
00-TFHP-701FFF	7/14/2003	\$ 4,585.28					\$ 4,585.28
00-TFHP-701GGG	7/14/2003	\$ 3,031.42					\$ 3,031.42
00-TFHP-701HHH	7/14/2003	\$ 3,304.62					\$ 3,304.62
00-TFHP-701JJJ	7/14/2003	\$ 6,695.00					\$ 6,695.00
00-TFHP-701KKK	7/14/2003	\$ 1,100.00					\$ 1,100.00
00-TFHP-701MMM	7/14/2003	\$ 325.00					\$ 325.00
00-TFHP-701NNN	7/14/2003	\$ 4,915.00					\$ 4,915.00
00-TFHP-701OOO	7/14/2003	\$ 7,725.00					\$ 7,725.00
00-TFHP-701PPP	7/14/2003	\$ 4,071.00					\$ 4,071.00
00-TFHP-701QQQ	7/14/2003	\$ 2,380.00					\$ 2,380.00
00-TFHP-701RRR	7/14/2003	\$ 661.00					\$ 661.00
00-TFHP-701SSS	7/14/2003	\$ 1,518.00					\$ 1,518.00
01-TFHP-403Q	7/10/2003	\$ 9,475.00					\$ 9,475.00
01-TFHP-403R	7/10/2003	\$ 18,403.00					\$ 18,403.00
01-TFHP-403S	7/17/2003	\$ 20,000.00					\$ 20,000.00
01-TFHP-403T	7/17/2003	\$ 19,960.00					\$ 19,960.00
00-TFHP-701LLL	7/18/2003	\$ 12,000.00					\$ 12,000.00
01-TFHP-701G	7/18/2003	\$ 8,420.00					\$ 8,420.00
00-TFHP-701III	7/18/2003	\$ 370.00					\$ 370.00
01-TFHP-701E	7/18/2003	\$ 470.43					\$ 470.43
00-TFHP-701EEE	7/18/2003	\$ 124.57					\$ 124.57

00-TFHP-701AAA	7/18/2003	\$ 12,000.00						\$ 12,000.00
01-TFHP-202A	8/5/2003	\$ 8,400.00						\$ 8,400.00
01-TFHP-202B	8/5/2003	\$ 11,584.61						\$ 11,584.61
01-TFHP-202C	8/5/2003	\$ 8,131.80						\$ 8,131.80
01-TFHP-202D	8/5/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-202E	8/5/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-202F	8/5/2003	\$ 7,900.00						\$ 7,900.00
01-TFHP-202G	8/5/2003	\$ 9,200.00						\$ 9,200.00
01-TFATP-001O	8/8/2003	\$ 2,315.00						\$ 2,315.00
00-TFHP-103L	8/8/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
00-TFHP-103M	8/8/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
01-TFHP-403U	8/8/2003	\$ 19,650.00						\$ 19,650.00
01-TFHP-403V	8/8/2003	\$ 9,263.00						\$ 9,263.00
01-TFHP-202H	8/27/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-202I	8/27/2003	\$ 14,394.39						\$ 14,394.39
01-TFHP-202J	8/27/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-202K	8/27/2003	\$ 5,094.72						\$ 5,094.72
01-TFHP-202L	8/27/2003	\$ 3,248.54						\$ 3,248.54
01-TFHP-202M	8/27/2003	\$ 7,500.00						\$ 7,500.00
01-TFHP-202N	8/27/2003	\$ 14,962.76						\$ 14,962.76
01-TFHP-202O	8/27/2003	\$ 12,909.27						\$ 12,909.27
01-TFHP-202P	8/27/2003	\$ 13,149.77						\$ 13,149.77
01-TFHP-202Q	8/27/2003	\$ 4,000.00						\$ 4,000.00
01-TFHP-202R	8/27/2003	\$ 9,319.38						\$ 9,319.38
01-TFHP-202S	8/27/2003	\$ 15,000.00						\$ 15,000.00
01-TFHP-202T	8/27/2003	\$ 11,854.00						\$ 11,854.00
00-TFHP-103N	9/22/2003	\$ 3,540.00						\$ 3,540.00
01-TFHP-403W	9/23/2003	\$ 9,475.00						\$ 9,475.00
TOTAL MATCH								\$ 1,579,524.97

Section Six:

Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program Overview – Emergency Shelter Grant Program and Nebraska Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund

Homeless

Funding Category

A. Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program – State Objective

The objective of the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) is to assist in the immediate alleviation of homelessness by Nebraska citizens using the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) funds and the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Trust Fund (HSATF). The state's HSATF funds provides a match of approximately \$2.55 for every ESGP dollar.

Because homelessness encompasses a wide range of conditions, the State strongly supports a collaborative approach to addressing the needs of people who are homeless. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) initiated the "Continuum of Care" process in 1994. The process promotes a coordinated, strategic planning approach for programs that assist families and individuals who are homeless and near homeless. This approach is supported as an effective community and regional-based process that provides a comprehensive and coordinated housing and service delivery system.

Fundamental components of all continuum of care systems are:

- Outreach, intake, and assessments to (1) identify an individual's or family's service and housing needs and (2) link them to appropriate housing and/or service resources.
- Emergency shelter and safe, decent alternatives to the streets.
- Transitional housing with supportive services to help people develop the skills necessary for permanent housing.
- Permanent housing and permanent supportive housing.

Agencies and organizations must be active participants in their local and regional continuums of care to receive NHAP funding. If a service or housing provider is not currently involved in a Regional/Local Continuum of Care Group, they may contact Jean Chicoine, jean.chicoine@hhss.state.ne.us and/or (402) 471-9644, to identify a primary contact person in the area.

The seven Nebraska continuum of care planning regions are as follows:

Region #	Region Name	Counties Represented
1	Panhandle	Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Box Butte, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, Deuel
2	North Central	Cherry, Keya Paha, Boyd, Brown, Rock, Holt, Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Boone, Platte, Colfax, Custer, Valley, Greeley, Sherman, Howard, Nance, Hall, Merrick, Hamilton
3	Southwest	Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Keith, Lincoln, Perkins, Dawson, Buffalo, Chase, Hayes, Frontier, Gosper, Phelps, Kearney, Dundy, Hitchcock, Redwillow, Furnas, Harlan, Franklin

Region #	Region Name	Counties Represented
4	Southeast	Polk, Butler, Saunders, Sarpy, York, Seward, Lancaster [Lincoln excluded], Cass, Otoe, Fillmore, Saline, Adams, Clay, Webster, Nuckolls, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, Richardson
5	Northeast	Northeast: Knox, Cedar, Dixon, Dakota, Antelope, Pierce, Wayne, Thurston, Madison, Stanton, Cuming, Burt, Dodge, Washington, Douglas [Omaha excluded]
6	Lincoln	Lincoln
7	Omaha	Omaha

Note: Map of Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program Regional Continuums of Care at end of section.

B. How and What Projects are Assisted

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services System (HHSS) through the Office of Economic and Family Support awards funds to eligible nonprofit 501 (c) (3) agencies and organizations. Non-profits that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing and supportive services to people who are homeless and at-risk of becoming homeless are recipients of the grant funds. The Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) projects are designed to be the first step in the continuum of assistance to prevent homelessness and to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Program Desk Guide). The goal of homeless programs in the State of Nebraska is to provide services to people who are homeless and near homeless to help them reach self-sufficiency. It is widely recognized that homelessness is not due to just a lack of shelter; it also involves a variety of unmet needs and underlying economic, physical, and social challenges.

An allocation formula is used in distributing NHAP grant funds. The allocation formula helps ensure an equitable distribution of funds throughout the entire state. The formula, developed with input from the advisory committee, is based on a \$50,000 base, with the remaining allocation divided equally between population, poverty, and pro rata figures for each region. The advisory committee consists of members with a combination of governor-appointed Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homeless members who serve on the NCHH Continuum of Care committee and at-large members who represent populations of people who are homeless and near homeless not represented by commission members. Currently there are 31 advisory committee members; draft bylaws allow for 40 members.

The Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program (NHAP) distributes funds to agencies across the state through a competitive grant process. A request for proposals (RFP) is announced with public notices. An RFP/application packet is mailed to agencies and organizations serving people who are homeless and near homeless. The RFP and application are also available on the HHSS/NHAP Web site.

Successful proposals reflect the purpose of the NHAP, as stated in the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund statute and McKinney-Vento regulations for ESG funds. The Nebraska Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund statute states that programs must address the needs of people who are homeless and near homeless in Nebraska by:

- assisting in the alleviation of homelessness;
- providing temporary and/or permanent shelters for persons who are homeless;
- addressing needs of migrant farm workers;
- encouraging the development of projects that link housing assistance programs with efforts to promote self-sufficiency.

Additionally, high priority is given to funding programs that reflect the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care process by addressing any or all of the following:

- Strategies that promote self-sufficiency (e.g. case management, outreach, development of independent living skills, counseling services, basic skills instruction, high school completion) for persons who are homeless or near homeless.
- Strategies that address a "Continuum of Care" approach to providing shelter and service through collaboration of services with other agencies.
- Expansion of operations, services, and programs that fill an identified gap in the regional/local continuum of care. This includes the rehabilitation of an existing building for emergency shelter and/or transitional program facility.
- Operations, services, and programs that, if they were discontinued, would create a substantial, recognizable gap in the regional/local continuum of care.
- Prevention activities that are a long-term solution to preventing homelessness in the region.

Applicants also sign a certification that they will be active participants in their local and regional continuums of care and participate in an HMIS data collection.

The distribution of funds reflects needs within a continuum as well as programmatic (i.e. activity specific) quality projects. The intent of the award is to supplement a service provider's budget. Organizations are encouraged to seek other sources of funding and collaborate and coordinate programs and services with other organizations in order to optimize the use of NHAP funds.

During the July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004 grant year, 70 programs of grantees statewide provided services to people who were homeless and near homeless. Grantees in each region conducted outreach activities to reach people in need. Through the intake process, staff of the various agencies identified an individual's or family's service and housing needs and linked them to appropriate housing and/or service resources. Table I shows distribution of funds for the 2003 grant cycle.

TABLE I.

Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program 2003 Awards (ESGP & HSATF)				
Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-NHAP-101	Scotts Bluff County Domestic Violence Task Force -- Scottsbluff	\$13,045.00	\$13,048.00	\$26,093.00
03-NHAP-102	Family Rescue Shelter dba Family Rescue Services -- Chadron	\$25,623.00	\$25,627.00	\$51,250.00
03-NHAP-103	NWNCAC -- Chadron	\$18,115.00	\$18,115.00	\$36,230.00
03-NHAP-104	Panhandle Community Services -- Gering	\$33,883.00	\$33,883.00	\$67,766.00
03-NHAP-105	NAF Multicultural Human Development Corporation -- North Platte	0	\$6,382.00	\$6,382.00
Region 1	TOTAL	\$90,666.00	\$97,055.00	\$187,721.00

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-NHAP-201	Center for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Survivors -- Columbus	\$10,619.00	\$9106.00	\$19,725.00
03-NHAP-202	Bright Horizons: Resources for Survivors -- Norfolk	\$11,987.00	\$11,623.00	\$23,610.00
03-NHAP-203	Crisis Center, Inc. -- Grand Island	\$15,404.00	\$14,482.00	\$29,886.00
03-NHAP-204	NWNCAC -- Chadron	0	\$3,287.00	\$3,287.00
03-NHAP-205	Central Nebraska Community Services, Inc. -- Loup City	\$74,572.00	\$71,270.00	\$145,842.00
03-NHAP-206	Community Humanitarian Resource Center, Inc. -- Grand Island	\$26,462.00	\$16,574.00	\$43,036.00
03-NHAP-207	The Salvation Army -- Grand Island	0	\$11,954.00	\$11,954.00
03-NHAP-208	Cedars Youth Services -- Broken Bow	0	\$21,518.00	\$21,518.00
Region 2	TOTAL	\$139,044.00	\$159,814	\$298,858.00

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-NHAP-301	Residential Assistance to Families in Transition (R.A.F.T.) -- Kearney	0	\$21,542.00	\$21,542.00
03-NHAP-302	Sandhills Crisis Intervention Program	\$12,098.00	\$12,099.00	\$24,197.00
03-NHAP-303	Dawson County Parent Child Protective Services, Inc.	\$17,705.00	\$17,706.00	\$35,411.00
03-NHAP-304	Rape/Domestic Abuse Program of North Platte	\$25,230.00	\$25,231.00	\$50,461.00
03-NHAP-305	The Spouse/Sexual Abuse Family Education -- Kearney	\$11,066.00	\$11,066.00	\$22,132.00
03-NHAP-306	Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Services -- McCook	\$12,688.00	\$12,690.00	\$25,378.00
03-NHAP-307	Lincoln County Community Services, Inc. -- North Platte	\$27,738.00	\$27,739.00	\$55,477.00
03-NHAP-308	NAF Multicultural Human Development Corporation -- North Platte	0	\$5,017.00	\$5,017.00
03-NHAP-309	Mid-Nebraska Community Action, Inc -- Kearney	\$25,230.00	\$25,230.00	\$50,460.00
03-NHAP-310	Community Service Center, Inc. -- Lexington	0	\$5,017.00	\$5,017.00
Region 3	TOTAL	\$131,755.00	\$163,337	\$295,092.00

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-NHAP-401	Lincoln Action Program, Inc -- Saunders County	\$6,021.00	\$12,441.00	\$18,462.00
03-NHAP-402	Crossroads Center -- Hastings	\$35,345.00	\$33,886.00	\$69,231.00
03-NHAP-403	Spouse Abuse/Sexual Assault Crisis Center -- Hastings	\$7,531.00	\$10,931.00	\$18,462.00
03-NHAP-404	Catholic Social Services - Hastings	\$9,586.00	\$18,107.00	\$27,693.00
03-NHAP-405 (combined)	Catholic Social Services/Supportive Housing PM -- Hastings	0	0	See 404
03-NHAP-406	Project Response, Inc. -- Auburn	\$16,146.00	\$25,393.00	\$41,539.00
03-NHAP-407	Blue Valley Community Action, Inc. -- Fairbury	\$17,101.00	\$102,900	\$120,001.00
03-NHAP-408	Mid-Nebraska Community Action, Inc -- Kearney	\$13,846.00	\$13,847.00	\$27,693.00
03-NHAP-409	Southeast Nebraska Community Action -- Humbolt	\$11,094.00	\$35,060.00	\$46,154.00
03-NHAP-410	Genesis Personal Development Center, Inc. -- David City	\$1,774.00	\$21,303.00	\$23,077.00
03-NHAP-411	Family Service - Bellevue	\$7,551.00	\$61,680.00	\$69,231.00
Region 4	TOTAL	\$125,995.00	\$335,548	\$461,543

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-NHAP-502	Crisis Center for Domestic Abuse Sexual Assault -- Fremont	\$4,201.00	\$43,059.00	\$47,260.00
03-NHAP-503	Bright Horizons: Resources for Survivors -- Norfolk	\$4,661.00	\$54,510.00	\$59,171.00
03-NHAP-504	Goldenrod Hills Community Services, Inc. -- Wisner	0	\$151,385.00	\$151,385.00
03-NHAP-505	Haven House Family Service Center -- Wayne	\$4,678.00	\$32,592.00	\$37,270.00
03-NHAP-506	Care Corps Inc -- Fremont	0	\$89,141.00	\$89,141.00
REGION 5	TOTAL	\$13,540.00	\$370,687.00	\$384,227.00

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-HSATF-601	Cedars Youth Services -- Lincoln		\$31,736.00	\$31,736.00
03-HSATF-602	Day Watch -- Lincoln		\$38,500.00	\$38,500.00
03-HSATF-603	Fresh Start -- Lincoln		\$25,200.00	\$25,200.00
03-HSATF-604	Friendship Home -- Lincoln		\$43,150.00	\$43,150.00
03-HSATF-605	Houses of Hope -- Lincoln		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
03-HSATF-606	Lincoln Action Program, Inc -- Lincoln		\$111,845.00	\$111,845.00
03-HSATF-607	People's City Mission -- Lincoln		\$16,616.00	\$16,616.00
03-HSATF-608	Matt Talbot Kitchen		\$23,960.00	\$23,960.00
REGION 6	TOTAL	City of Lincoln	\$306,007.00	\$306,007.00

Grant #	Applicant Name	2003 ESGP Awards	2003 HSATF Awards	2003 NHAP Awards (TOTAL)
03-HSATF-701	Sienna/Francis House		\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
03-HSATF-702	St. Vincent's -- Omaha		\$7,850.00	\$7,850.00
03-HSATF-703	Cath. Charities-The Women's Shelter -- Omaha		\$39,500.00	\$39,500.00
03-HSATF-704	Sal. Army-TCP -- Omaha		\$39,500.00	\$39,500.00
03-HSATF-705	Child Saving Institute -- Omaha		\$28,500.00	\$28,500.00
03-HSATF-706	Sienna/Francis Rec. Prgm. -- Omaha		\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
03-HSATF-707	New Creations -- Omaha		\$89,000.00	\$89,000.00
03-HSATF-708	Sal. Army-Harrington Homes -- Omaha		\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00
03-HSATF-709	Sal. Army-Scattered-Site		\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00
03-HSATF-710	Help the Homeless		\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
03-HSATF-711	SC-HERO Prg.		\$21,500.00	\$21,500.00
03-HSATF-712	Family Housing Adv. Serv.		\$42,648.00	\$42,648.00
03-HSATF-713	CC-Juan Diego Ctr		\$14,500.00	\$14,500.00
03-HSATF-714	Community Alliance		\$39,500.00	\$39,500.00
03-HSATF-715	HOPE Medical Outreach		\$35,500.00	\$35,500.00
03-HSATF-716	Visiting Nurse Assoc.		\$35,500.00	\$35,500.00
03-HSATF-717	Sal. Army-Material Assistance		\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00
03-HSATF-719	Camp Fire		\$14,250.00	\$14,250.00
03-HSATF-720	Stephen Center		\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
03-HSATF-721	Sal. Army-37 th St. RR Prg.		\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
03-HSATF-722	CC-Campus for Hope		\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
03-HSATF-723	Charles drew Health Ctr		\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00
03-HSATF-724	YWCA		\$11,900.00	\$11,900.00
Region 7	Total	City of Omaha	\$570,148.00	\$570,148.00
	Total NHAP Grant Awards	\$501,000.00	\$2,002,596.00	\$2,503,596.00

C: A Description of the State's Method of Distribution of NHAP Funds

Funds are provided through the NHAP granting process. After proposals are received by HHS, copies are sent to separate review teams for each region. Team members review and individually score the proposals, meet in a team review session to discuss each proposal, review past performance measures (data, involvement in continuums, draw downs and rate of draw downs), review last year awards by region and grantee, review the region allocation for the current grant year, and submit recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services for Services for final approval. Review teams include representatives from the state departments of Economic Development, Education, Health and Human Services, and other agencies, organizations, and groups that have involvement with people who are homeless and near homeless. Teams represent diverse perspectives and geographic areas. All review team members sign a conflict of interest statement prior to reviewing applications. No agency employee reviews another agency in her/his regional continuum.

Proposals are reviewed and ranked by teams using specific criteria and a point system as shown in Table II. A numerical weight, with a maximum total of 100 points, is assigned to each application. The point

system is reviewed after each grant cycle and adjusted or clarified based on review team input during the grant review process. The scoring system is included in the RFP issued to applicants.

TABLE II:

Section	Criteria	Points
I. Organization, Programs, Services	History of the organization's development, mission, focus of the organization's programs and services; adequacy of staffing, experience and competence of staff; demonstrated ability of project management. Relevant information on any subcontractor.	20
II. Program Funding Request	Purpose of program service. Description of how the proposed program addresses client need(s). Client need documented by the number of persons housed per night, the number of meals provided, or other verifiable units of service provided by the applicant. Organization exhibits a record of accurate tracking of needs and services.	25
III. Program Data	Requested data for type of project, services, population(s) served, characteristics of populations served, and racial/ethnic characteristics.	8
IV. Budget Information	Budget and audit reflect use of sound fiscal policy. Budget shows diversified budget funding sources. Budget and budget narrative provides a clear understanding of the financial aspect of the project.	7
V. Effectiveness Measures	Description of client needs, service(s) that meet needs, and how each is evaluated for effectiveness. Description of the method by which outcomes will be measured.	15
VI. Continuum of Care Involvement	Evidence throughout the application of coordination of services or providers implementing a continuum of care approach. Evidence that ongoing services are essential to the Regional/Local Continuum of Care and expanded services will fill a gap identified in the Regional/Local Continuum of Care.	25

Team reviewers use a further point breakdown for items within each criterion. The point breakdown form is shown in Attachment A. Scoring provides a common point of discussion in the review process. For the 2004-2005 NHAP grant cycle, applicants will be considered for a second year of funding. The second year funding will be dependent on:

- funds available;
- evaluation of current year performance;
- submission of a second year budget and demonstrated need for second year funds;
- active participation in their local and regional continuum of care;
- commitment to implementation of the Homeless Management Inventory System (HMIS) per HUD's HMIS published on the Federal Register on July 30, 2004.

If a grantee is not renewed or not renewed at the same level of funding for a second year, funding may be reallocated to other grantees within the same region. If a grantee is not renewed, and other funded grantees do not require a higher level of funding, an RFP and application process will occur to fund needed services and identified gaps within that continuum region.

D. Time Line for Review of Grantees for Second Year Funding:

Date	Activity
December 6, 2004	Grantee program evaluation & budget request issued to applicant.
February 19, 2005	Program evaluation & budget due to HHSS by 5:00 p.m.
February 26, 2005	Any additional information requested due to HHSS by 5:00 p.m.
June 2005	Awards Announced

E. Monitoring

On-site monitoring of grantees will begin in August 2004. One-third of the grantees will be monitored on-site over a three year period. Desk monitoring of all grantees will continue to ensure compliance with regulations. A monitoring instrument was developed following the publication HUD Monitoring: Policies and Procedures for Program Oversight. Risk assessments were conducted prior to initial scheduling. Selections of grantees for first year monitoring were based on risk assessment and a review of 2004 grant applications, as well as a mix of large and small agencies and high and low risk.

F. Strategy Four & Objectives

The strategy for the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program has been to:

Support and facilitate an active and effective regional continuum of care planning and delivery system focusing on a comprehensive approach to housing and service delivery to people who are homeless and near homeless.

Each year the Department of Housing and Urban Development Emergency Shelter Grant Program funds are matched with the Nebraska Housing Shelter Assistance Trust Fund and awarded to agencies that collaborate to help people who are homeless and near homeless achieve maximum self-sufficiency in housing that is safe, affordable and appropriate for their needs.

During the 2003-2004 grant cycle, these agencies collaborated to assist 28,105 individuals who were homeless and 43,134 individuals who were near homeless. This compares to last year reported figures of 18,755 individuals who were homeless and 26,506 individuals who were near homeless. The data reveal a 32 percent decrease in the number of homeless reported for regions one through five and a one hundred sixteen percent increase for the entitlement cities, Lincoln and Omaha. The decrease in regions one through five is attributed to more accurate unduplicated data reported by grantees. Other factors were considered, such as a decrease in population. However, while Lincoln and Omaha experienced population growth, there was not a corresponding decrease in population in the rest of the state.

Another explanation is that the balance of the state assists more individuals and families who are **near homeless** while urban areas serve more people who are **homeless**. Regions one through five experienced a 33.9 percent increase in the number of **near homeless** assisted. Agencies may also be more accurate in ascertaining and reporting whether people are homeless or near homeless. Agencies in the balance of the state reflected a 1.9 percent increase in persons who were homeless **and** near homeless. See Tables III and IV for breakdown by region.

TABLE III

Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program(NHAP) Regional Comparisons Fiscal Years (2002-03) (2003-04) Homeless Figures			
NHAP Regions	NHAP 2002-2003 Annual Figures Homeless Totals (Unduplicated)	NHAP 2003-2004 Annual Figures Homeless Totals (Unduplicated)	Percent Increase/Decrease
Region: 1 Panhandle	649	571	-12%
Region: 2 North Central	1,574	704	-55%
Region: 3 Southwest	2,103	1,415	-33%
Region: 4 Southeast	2,717	2,182	-20%
Region: 5 Northeast	1,352	816	-40%
Sub-Totals Regions (1-5)	8,395	5,688	-32%
Region: 6 Lincoln	3,204	6,466	+102%
Region: 7 Omaha	7,156	15,951	+123%
Sub-Totals Regions (6 & 7)	10,360	22,417	+116%
Totals (All Regions)	18,755	28,105	+50%

TABLE IV

**Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program(NHAP)
Regional Comparisons
Fiscal Years (2002-03) (2003-04)**

Near Homeless Figures

NHAP Regions	NHAP 2002-2003 Annual Figures Near Homeless Totals (Unduplicated)	NHAP 2003-2004 Annual Figures Near Homeless Totals (Unduplicated)	Percent Increase/Decrease
Region: 1 Panhandle	1,109	4,024	+26%
Region: 2 North Central	6,130	5,761	-6%
Region: 3 Southwest	2,478	3,319	+34%
Region: 4 Southeast	5,661	5,889	+4%
Region: 5 Northeast	859	2,742	+219%
Sub-Totals Regions (1-5)	16,237	21,735	+34%
Region: 6 Lincoln	8,586	19,535	+128%
Region: 7 Omaha	1,683	1,864	+11%
Sub-Totals Regions (6 & 7)	10,269	21,399	+108%
Totals	26,506	43,134	+63%

Households served by the grantee's programs are represented in the table below. No significant comparisons can be made with last year's data because the category "Other" represented seven percent of the homeless and 15 percent of the near homeless. It is significant to note that 71 percent of all homeless are represented by unaccompanied men (32 percent) and single parent families (39 percent). Single and two parent families represent 86 percent of those who are near homeless.

Household Type	Percent to Total – Individuals in Household Type	
	Homeless	Near Homeless
Unaccompanied Men	32%	6%
Unaccompanied Women	12%	8%
Single Parent Family	39%	54%
Two Parent Family	9%	32%
Adult Couple – No Children	4%	.4%
Unaccompanied Youth	4%	.2%
	100%	100.6%

For racial characteristics, no significant comparisons can be made with last year's data because the category "Other Multi-Racial" represented eight percent of the homeless and 19 percent of the near homeless. Ethnicity data are more reliable and show that last year people who identified as Hispanic or

Latino represented 19 percent of people who were homeless and 10 percent of those who were near homeless. This year, people who identified as Hispanic or Latino represented 17 percent of people who were homeless and 11 percent of those who were near homeless. The two percent decrease in homelessness and the one percent increase in near homelessness is not conclusive evidence of a trend. See table below and tables on following pages.

GRANTEE: Nebraska - Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

CATEGORIES			OPERATIONS	CLIENT SERVICES	HOMELESS PREVENTION	REHABILITATION
1	Numbers should reflect those served by NHAP Funds ONLY	ESG	\$191,446	\$137,410	\$158,100	\$14,044
HSATF		\$519,409	\$942,592	\$538,595	\$2,000	
TOTAL		\$710,855	\$1,080,002	\$696,695	\$16,044	
Ethnicity			Homeless	Near Homeless		
2	Hispanic or Latino		4,679	4,784		
3	Not Hispanic or Latino		23,426	38,350		
Racial Characteristics			Homeless	Near Homeless		
4	White		21,464	35,428		
5	Black/African American		4,316	3,723		
6	Asian		107	209		
7	American Indian/Alaskan Native		1,117	1,118		
8	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		12	16		
9	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White		171	1,141		
10	Asian & White		35	15		
11	Black/African American and White		90	190		
12	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American		23	31		
13	Other Multi-Racial		770	1,263		
TOTAL			28,105	43,134		
14	Disabled		1,318	2,481		
Status						
15	Unaccompanied Men – Total Persons Served		8,917	2,527		
16	Unaccompanied Women – Total Persons Served		3,374	3,541		
17	Single Parent Families - # of Families		2,557	4,886		
18	Single Parent Families – Total Persons Served		11,083	23,144		
19	Two Parent Families - # of Families		548	2,925		
20	Two Parent Families – Total Persons Served		2,420	13,648		
21	Adult Couple with No Children – Total Persons Served		1,240	189		
22	Unaccompanied Youth/Under 18 (Excluding State Wards) – Total Persons Served		1,071	85		
23	Other		0	0		
24	TOTAL PERSONS SERVED (15+16+18+20+21+22+23)		28,105	43,134		

GRANTEE: Non-entitlement areas- Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

CATEGORIES			OPERATIONS	CLIENT SERVICES	HOMELESS PREVENTION	REHABILITATION
1	Numbers should reflect those served by NHAP Funds ONLY	ESG	\$191,446	\$137,410	\$158,100	\$14,044
HSATF		\$266,061	\$487,630	\$372,750	0	
TOTAL		\$457,507	\$625,040	\$530,850	\$14,044	
Ethnicity			Homeless	Near Homeless		
2	Hispanic or Latino		803	2,647		
3	Not Hispanic or Latino		4,873	19,079		
Racial Characteristics			Homeless	Near Homeless		
4	White		4,886	18,989		
5	Black/African American		196	682		
6	Asian		30	37		
7	American Indian/Alaskan Native		219	528		
8	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		2	4		
9	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White		100	1,104		
10	Asian & White		11	7		
11	Black/African American and White		20	78		
12	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American		7	3		
13	Other Multi-Racial		216	301		
TOTAL			5,688	21,735		
14	Disabled		222	850		
Status						
15	Unaccompanied Men – Total Persons Served		596	1,378		
16	Unaccompanied Women – Total Persons Served		756	2,334		
17	Single Parent Families - # of Families		1,091	2,628		
18	Single Parent Families – Total Persons Served		3,511	9,993		
19	Two Parent Families - # of Families		222	1,912		
20	Two Parent Families – Total Persons Served		718	7,246		
21	Adult Couple with No Children – Total Persons Served		85	699		
22	Unaccompanied Youth/Under 18 (Excluding State Wards) – Total Persons Served		22	85		
23	Other		0	0		
24	TOTAL PERSONS SERVED (15+16+18+20+21+22+23)		5,688	21,735		

GRANTEE: Lincoln & Omaha - Regions 6 & 7 GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2003 – June 30, 2004

**2003 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report
Section 6 - 12**

CATEGORIES			OPERATIONS	CLIENT SERVICES	HOMELESS PREVENTION	REHABILITATION
1	Numbers should reflect those served by NHAP Funds ONLY	ESG	ENTITLEMENT CITIES			
		HSATF	\$253,348	\$454,962	\$165,845	\$2,000
		TOTAL	\$253,348	\$454,962	\$165,845	\$2,000
Ethnicity			Homeless		Near Homeless	
2	Hispanic or Latino		3,876		2,136	
3	Not Hispanic or Latino		18,541		19,263	
Racial Characteristics			Homeless		Near Homeless	
4	White		16,578		16,437	
5	Black/African American		4,119		3,040	
6	Asian		77		172	
7	American Indian/Alaskan Native		898		590	
8	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		10		10	
9	American Indian/Alaskan Native and White		71		37	
10	Asian & White		23		8	
11	Black/African American and White		70		115	
12	American Indian/Alaskan Native and Black/African American		17		28	
13	Other Multi-Racial		554		962	
TOTAL			22,417		21,399	
14	Disabled		1,096		1,631	
Status						
15	Unaccompanied Men – Total Persons Served		8,321		1,049	
16	Unaccompanied Women – Total Persons Served		2,618		1,207	
17	Single Parent Families - # of Families		1,466		2,258	
18	Single Parent Families – Total Persons Served		8,463		12,836	
19	Two Parent Families - # of Families		326		1,013	
20	Two Parent Families – Total Persons Served		1,862		5,766	
21	Adult Couple with No Children – Total Persons Served		104		541	
22	Unaccompanied Youth/Under 18 (Excluding State Wards) – Total Persons Served		1,049		0	
23	Other		0		0	
24	TOTAL PERSONS SERVED (15+16+18+20+21+22+23)		22,417		21,399	

Objective #1: Strengthen the Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program's advisory committee and regional and local continuums of care.

Accomplishments of the past year include:

- The NHAP advisory committee developed bylaws that will be adopted during the fourth quarter meeting of 2004;
- Technical assistance for organizational development was provided to three regional continuums of care by Kevin Kissenger of Dennison Associates (TA contracted by HUD);
- Technical assistance at the state level was provided to all continuums throughout the year;

- Summaries of Super NOFA debriefings, both general and regional, along with copies of each region's Exhibit 1, were sent to all continuum of care chairs/conveners for their review;
- The NHAP Web site was updated with information about NHAP, the history, purpose and funding priorities of NHAP, the history of the Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness, a list of agencies and programs funded by NHAP, and useful links. Regional continuum of care information is being updated and will be added to the Web site in August 2004.

In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services participated, in the fall of 2003, in a Policy Academy hosted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Labor, the Veterans Administration, and the Department of Health and Human Services. The purpose of the academy was to develop a ten-year plan to increase access to mainstream services and resources for people who are chronically homeless. During 2004, a broad-based planning team further developed the draft plan that was created during the policy academy. Continuums of care across the state are involved in and have representation on the planning team.

The plan includes goals, strategies, action steps, expected outcomes and benchmarks addressing all homelessness and near homelessness. The six goals are:

- 1) Develop & establish a statewide initiative to lead Nebraskans in collaborative efforts to create strategies & initiatives that focus resources and efforts resulting in increased access to services, systems, and housing for persons experiencing chronic homelessness (and all homelessness & near homelessness)
- 2) Create Additional Appropriate and Supportive Housing Choices
- 3) Increase Access to Mainstream Services & Resources
- 4) Increase and Implement Strategies Addressing Prevention & Discharge Planning
- 5) Ensure Culturally Competent Services Across all Goals
- 6) Data Collection and Evaluation

The development of a statewide plan on homelessness is even more critical as Nebraska implements behavioral health reform. Over the past year, 11 sub committees have worked on various issues related to LB 1083 – Behavioral Health Reform. Up to 2.0 million dollars will be available for rental assistance to ensure housing for individuals with serious mental illness. NHAP staff has been involved in the planning efforts around housing and employment services for the seriously mentally ill. These teams have included state, local and consumer stakeholders in housing and supportive services for this targeted population. It is important to reflect this legislation in the state plan to help ensure homelessness does not increase as reform is implemented and to acknowledge the efforts being made to improve conditions through LB 1083 workgroups. Work on the draft plan to end homelessness continues and will be finalized by the end of 2004 or early 2005.

The objective for the next year is to finalize and adopt the plan and incorporate performance measures of the six goals into the consolidated plan or plan update.

Finally, NHAP staff will work with those responsible for administering the HOPWA grant. This is the first year of the HOPWA grant in Nebraska. NHAP program staff were involved in the development of the grant application. The NHAP advisory committee has a member representing HIV/AIDS and the HOPWA program. The NHAP staff will continue to support and assist when possible in the implementation of the plan in Nebraska. This includes but is not limited to assisting agencies serving HOPWA participants with Objective 2, data collection.

Objective 2: *Compile data via monthly reporting and disseminate the information to the regions.*

A new monthly NHAP report form was created to reflect information required by HUD for the ESG and IDIS reporting. The form is used by all continuums of care, including entitlement cities of Lincoln and Omaha. In 2003, grantees received aggregate reports (using data from the old report form) from the NHAP for the first time. Based on their review of the data, grantees were able to assess the quality of their data.

At the beginning of the July 1, 2003 grant cycle, the new monthly report form was adopted. Instructions were reviewed at regional continuum of care meetings. HHS staff continued to work with grantees throughout the grant year to ensure that data were more accurately and consistently reported. Data for the first six months of the 2003 grant cycle comparing homeless and near homeless figures to last year figures were distributed. Year-end figures are also distributed to continuums of care and grantees. Quality of data collected manually is a priority until the transition is made to a HMIS. With implementation of the Service Point HMIS, unduplicated counts are greatly enhanced.

The most significant accomplishment of 2004 was the implementation of a statewide Homeless Inventory Management System (HMIS) using Service Point. A system implemented by the Panhandle Partnership three years ago expanded when the Lincoln Continuum of Care joined the Panhandle server in October of 2003. In June of 2004, the pilot project for the Lincoln continuum of care issued their first unduplicated count, along with reports on characteristics, family type, and other factors. In July 2004, the Community Action of Nebraska organization voted to merge their Service Point system with this existing system. The merged system is a statewide system: the Nebraska Management Information System Partnership (NMISP). The NMISP is an independent affiliate of the Nebraska Community Foundation. Currently, members are developing bylaws as well as policies and procedures for the partnership. A statewide system will help insure unduplicated counts of people who are homeless and near homeless.

The objective for the next year is to expand implementation of the statewide HMIS. This is included in Goal 6 of the state plan on homelessness.

Attachment A

PROPOSAL REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET

RFP: 01-Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program

Date: _____

Applicant: _____

Reviewer: _____

Please review the proposal and score according to the category listed. Each element has total points possible listed for each individual item and a sub-total score at the end of that section. There is a section on the final page for tallying all possible points. **All questions must be answered in the space provided and not exceed the allowed space.**

Thank you for taking the time to review these proposals.

20 points

Section I. Organization, Programs, Services

History shows organization's development; mission(s) clearly states the focus of the organization's programs and services; adequacy of staffing, experience and competence of staff; demonstrated ability of project management. If the applicant plans to subcontract, provide this information on the subcontractor as well.

1. A brief history of the agency/organization is given. (2 pts.)
2. The organization's mission is stated and clear. (2 pts.)
3. The narrative addresses the adequacy of staffing, staff competencies, and project management experience. (2 pts.)
4. A description of programs and services is provided. (7 pts.)
5. The narrative provides information about the populations of people who are homeless and near homeless that the agency serves. (7 pts.)

Sub-score: _____

25 points

Section II. Program Funding Request

Describe purpose of program service. Describe how the proposed program will address client need(s). Client need may be documented by the number of persons housed per night, the number of meals provided, or other verifiable units of service provided by the applicant. Organization exhibits a record of accurate tracking of needs and services.

1. The program and services for which the agency is seeking funding is clear. (5 pts.)
2. Data: (10 pts.)
 - (a) If the funding is for continuation of a program, the proposal states how many unduplicated people were served in the past year.
 - (b) If the funding is for expansion of an existing program, the request is supported by a documented increase in the number of people served.
 - (c) If the funding is for a new program, the applicant explains how the proposed program and/or service fills a gap identified by the regional Continuum of Care.
3. The proposal clearly identifies the population(s) served, client needs, and how the services proposed for funding would enable people who are homeless and near homeless achieve self-sufficiency. The proposal clearly **documents the need to serve the population the applicant proposes serving**. The case for funding the proposal is clearly made. There is evidence and/or documentation that the applicant collaborates with other agencies and

organizations that serve the same population(s). Services are coordinated to avoid duplication of services. (10 pts.)

4. **NOTE:** If the applicant is a shelter, the number of beds chart needs to be filled out. No separate points are allocated for this. However, if an applicant is a shelter provider and the chart is not filled out, deduct 4 points from the overall points in Section II.

8 points

Section III. Program Data

Requested data for type of project, services, population(s) served, characteristics of populations served, and racial/ethnic characteristics. A report form is attached. (8pts.)

7 points

Section IV. Budget Information

Budget and audit reflect use of sound fiscal policy. The proposal needs to include the outlined budget completed on the forms provided. Please include a budget narrative page as well. Budget shows diversified budget funding sources.

1. The proposed budget is sufficient and appropriate to support the project presented. Budget reflects use of sound fiscal policy. (3 points)
2. The proposed budget shows diversified budget funding sources. (2 points)
3. The proposed budget follows the format required of the RFP using the format and budget categories required, including a budget narrative that clearly identifies proposed spending. (2 points)

Sub-score: _____

15 points

Section V. Effectiveness Measures

Describe the client needs, service, and how each is evaluated for effectiveness, and the expected outcomes.

1. The proposal clearly identifies the need(s), the service(s) provided to address the need(s), a plan to evaluate the effectiveness of meeting each need, and the expected outcomes. The need(s) reflect information in the narrative and/or funding request sections. (8 points)
2. Methods to measure outcomes are described and the expected outcomes are expressed in measurable units. (7 points)

Sub-score: _____

25 points

Section VI. Continuum of Care Involvement

Evidence throughout the application of coordination of services or providers implementing a continuum of care approach. Evidence that ongoing services are essential to the Regional/Local Continuum of Care and expanded services will fill a gap identified in the Regional/Local Continuum of Care.

1. Evidence of working in a Continuum of Care approach is reflected throughout the application. (13 points)

Section VI. Cont.

2. The proposed funding activity provides services essential to the Continuum of Care. (12 points)

Sub-score: _____

Overall Scores:

Section I. Organization, Program, Services (20)	_____
Section II. Program Funding Request (25)	_____
Section III. Program Data (8)	_____
Section IV. Budget & Narrative (7)	_____
Section V. Effectiveness Measures (15)	_____
Section VI. Continuum of Care (25)	_____
Total Score (100 possible points)	_____

Reviewer Recommendations:

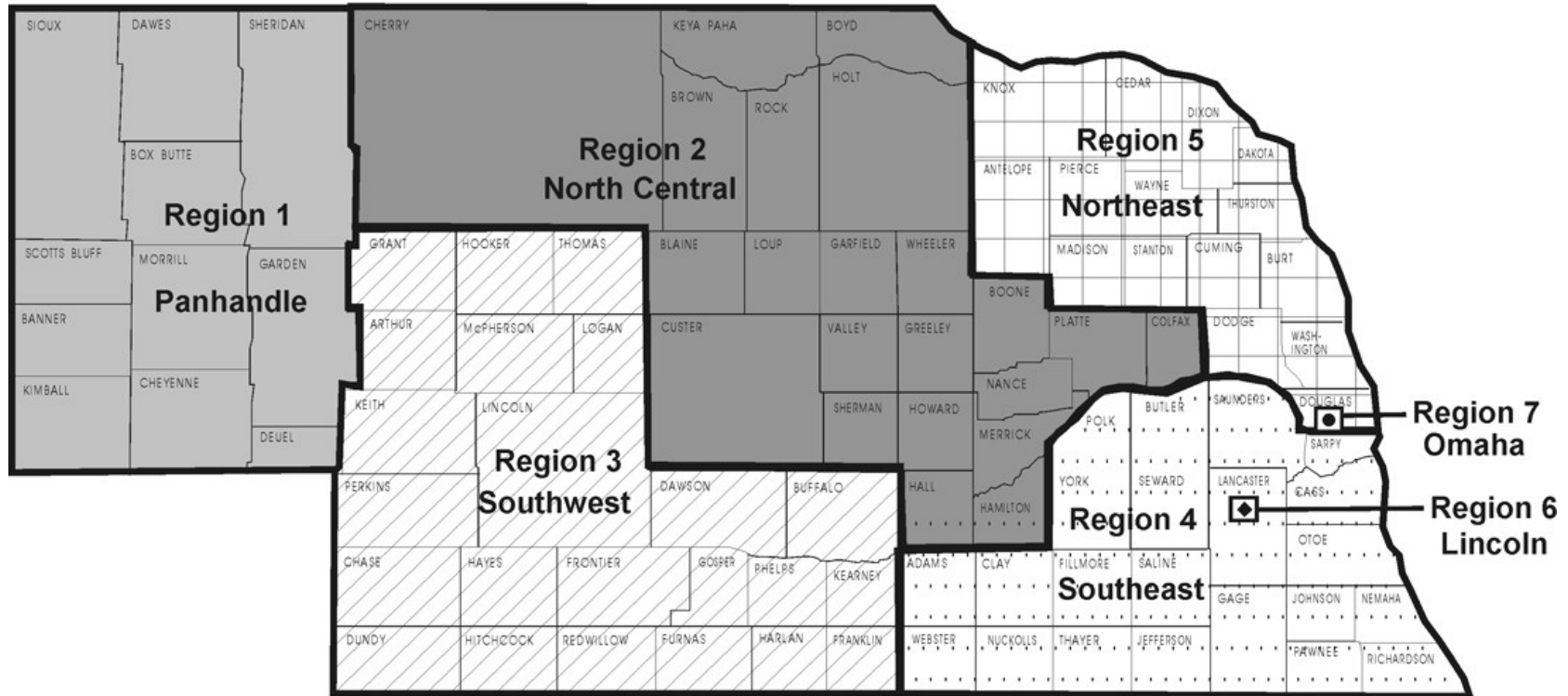
_____ **Accept proposal with no changes**

_____ **Accept proposal with changes (list changes)** _____

_____ **Do not accept proposal**

Suggested changes or overall comments: _____

NEBRASKA HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REGIONAL CONTINUUMS OF CARE



MAP 75 1/04

Section Seven:

OTHER ACTIONS

Report on Additional Actions Required by HUD

Report on Other Actions

Address Obstacles to Meeting Under-Served Needs

DED provided three training sessions to 132 registrants that included environmental and CDBG administration for labor standards, and CDBG compliance monitoring preparation for building capacity of local officials and administrators in the implementation of the CDBG Program. A need for educating local government and planning officials in Federal and State Statutes as well as land use and environmental issues was recognized. In order for community development projects to have a positive impact on a community, local officials must have a better understanding and acknowledgement of these Federal and State Statutes. DED along with the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association and the Nebraska Lied Main Street Program and the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association conducted a 3-day statewide institute on land use management, the conference was attended by over 220 participants.

Actions to Foster and Maintain Affordable Housing and to Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing

The state recognizes it shares responsibility with federal and local governments for shaping a regulatory climate that encourages housing while maintaining needed health, safety, environmental, and consumer protections. The cost, benefits, and tradeoffs of various regulations must be weighed carefully so they promote the affordability and availability of housing. In addition, the administration of regulations must be done in a way that reduces costs and delays.

DED's Housing Strategies are developed to remove barriers to affordable housing and foster and maintain affordable housing. Please refer to the Housing Development Priority Section of the 2003 CAPER to review that information for the 2003 Program Year. In addition, the environmental review process for our grantees in housing projects was streamlined to a more efficient process to not delay the implementation of affordable housing projects. DED continues to work on improvements in this area. Finally, the Nebraska Affordable Housing Act was amended to add an additional eligible activity of rental assistance to adults with serious mental illness in order to address the barrier to affordable housing for extremely low income adults with serious mental illness who are dependent on Social Security Disability Income for housing costs.

Coordination of Low Income Housing Tax Credits with Affordable Housing Development

As an incentive for the provision of affordable, low-income rental housing, Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Service tax code provides for the taking of tax credits against the development cost. The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) allocated these federal tax credits for qualified projects in the state. To better coordinate the use of tax credits with other federal housing programs (e.g. CDBG, USDA-RD housing loans, and HOME); NIFA prepared an allocation plan providing for a balanced distribution of the tax credits in the metro/non-metro areas. The allocation plan was prepared in consultation with other governmental agencies with housing resources. The Housing Technical Assistance Review Process (TARP) team, composed of DED, NIFA, USDA-RD rural housing service, Nebraska Energy Office, and State Historic Preservation reviewed and coordinated housing preapplications to direct projects to the most appropriate source(s) of funding, which sometimes included tax credits.

Evaluation and Reduction of Lead-Based Paint Hazards

The following developments occurred during the 2002 program year for the Statewide Rural Lead-Based Paint Hazard Evaluation and Reduction Program. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services System (HHSS) began providing services in the Lead Hazard and Reduction Program. By the end of the 2002 program year, four community based organizations were under contract and lead hazards were addressed in three homes under the program. More than 100 households were approved to be assisted of which six were completed through the program. There are 143 risk assessors and paint inspectors on the list of lead professionals and workers that is maintained by HHSS. The DED website has a lead-based paint question and answer section, which provides an interactive discussion area for lead paint issues.

Efforts to Reduce the Number of Persons Living Below the Poverty Level

The housing strategies and objectives focus on creating and maintaining a supply of affordable, decent housing. Affordable housing is an integral component to keep people off public assistance, since affordable housing (by definition) allows people to spend only 30% or less of their gross monthly income on housing related utilities and rent/housing payments. Such individuals then have more income to devote to other necessities. The State's homeownership programs provide quality homeownership counseling to individuals before homes are purchased in an effort to keep people from moving back below the poverty level once they take on more financial responsibilities.

Jobs paying a living wage are also key to keeping people off public assistance. Jobs are created and individuals are trained in various skills either directly or indirectly with almost every economic development objective and housing objective in the *Annual Action Plan*. Every one of the Economic Development Priority's objectives either train individuals for the workforce, or create or retain jobs. As an example of a housing objective that creates jobs, one housing objective creates jobs in the housing industry by increasing the amount of financial resources invested in housing projects. More projects mean more construction and rehabilitation, creating more jobs paying good wages.

Development of an Improved Institutional Structure and Enhancement of Coordination between Public and Private Housing and Social Service Agencies

The Water Wastewater Task Force is made up of individuals from USDA-RD, DED, DEQ and NHHSS. The task force meets regularly to review water and wastewater projects during the 2002 program year. The task force devises strategies for technical assistance and the application process on a case-by-case basis.

Technical Assistance Review Process (TARP) provides the following technical assistance to housing applicants:

- How to assess needs of your community
- How to access financial resources
- How to acquire regional and community support
- How to create affordable housing infrastructure
- How to design an affordable housing project
- How to select a development team
- Review of preliminary application, etc.

Individuals from DED, USDA-RD, HUD, NIFA and the NE Energy Office make up the TARP team. The team met monthly throughout the 2000 program year.

DED also took many actions to coordinate with agencies providing health, mental health, housing, and supportive services in 2002. Nebraska has a strong network of public, nonprofit, and private organizations to fulfill housing and support service needs. Many state programs and/or local organizations exist in these areas. Since the needs are many and resources are limited, this network cannot meet all housing and supportive needs. The state coordinated with many agencies during the 2002 program year. Some examples follow:

- DED coordinated the Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness. NCHH members solicit participation from state and nonprofit agencies that provide mental health, health, and housing services.
- DED is involved in the Governor's Mental Health Planning and Evaluation Council.

Fostering Public Housing Resident Initiatives

The state does not operate public housing units. Action in this area was therefore one of advocacy. DED worked with local public housing agencies and supported efforts to increase the involvement of residents in public housing management and provide them with expanded homeownership opportunities. DED consulted with the Nebraska Association of Housing Resident Organizations (NAHRO) on these matters.

Leveraging Resources

The state makes every effort to leverage HOME, ESG, and CDBG funds with non-federal resources. In the past, HOME and CDBG funds have been leveraged by significant amounts (and varying types) of private and non-federal public funds. A description of all these resources can be found in the "Inventory of Housing Resource Programs available from DED.

The match for the HOME program is attained by: 1) requiring that individual grantees and CHDO's report annually the eligible sources of HOME match from their housing projects and programs; 2) the dollars awarded from the NAHTF program that serve income eligible persons.

The Nebraska Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund, which generates more the \$800,000 annually from a portion of the state's documentary stamp tax, provides the 100% match for the Emergency Shelter Grant program.

Section Eight:

Community Development Block Grant Program
Report

Introduction

This report is submitted according to Section 104(e) of the Housing and Community Development Act and 24 CFR 570.491 which requires grantees to report on the administration of the State and Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program. This report is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. All grants made to local governments since 1993 are summarized along with accomplishments and beneficiary data.

Background

Congress established the CDBG program through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Act sought to streamline the application and review process for several categorical grant and loan programs. It also intended to provide local governments a greater voice in determining the best way to meet community development needs.

According to Federal enabling legislation, the CDBG program's primary objective is the development of viable community by providing decent housing, suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons. This is achieved through eligible activities which must benefit persons of low and moderate income; prevent or eliminate slums and blight; or meet an urgent community development need. The activities by major grouping are public facilities, housing rehabilitation, housing development, comprehensive community/neighborhood revitalization, economic development, business development, and planning.

Prior to 1982 the program was administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for large urban areas and rural areas. With the enactment of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981, state governments had the option of administering the non-entitlement CDBG program.

Nebraska was one of the 35 states that immediately assumed administration of the CDBG program. In September 1981, Governor Charles Thone directed the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) to establish a state CDBG program. The program was initially designed through an extensive process of local consultation with local governments. The program serves all incorporated municipalities under 50,000 population and all counties--a total of 626 eligible local governments.

Local design for the program continues to take place on an annual basis with the continuation of the extensive process of local consultation.

EXPLANATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

The Performance Evaluation Report is divided into sections for each CDBG allocation year including 1990 and then continuing with 1993-2002. Each part contains information on the State's performance under each grant received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant Program.

OUTLINE FOR EACH SECTION OF THE REPORT

PART I -

Financial Status
National Objectives
Grant Activities Summary

PART II -

Assessment of Relationship of Use of Funds to State Objectives

PART III -

Civil Rights data for program applicants and beneficiaries

PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO.

This is the grant number from the U.S. Department of Housing Development for the Community Development Block Grant to the State of Nebraska. The first two digits following the letter "B" indicate the year of the federal allocation of funds. For example: B-99-DC-31-001 indicates that funds were allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban development in 1999. Grants awarded to local governments in Nebraska from the 1999 allocation are listed under this grant number.

DATA AS OF

As required by HUD the information for this report is submitted based on grants awarded through June 30, 2004. Drawdown amounts are as of June 30, 2004.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The financial status section of the report summarizes all funds allocated to the state by HUD; program income distributed in the specific grant year; amounts obligated to recipients; amounts drawn down; and amount of allocation to be used for state administration and technical assistance.

NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Each activity, except for administration, must meet a national objective of the Housing and Community Development Act. National objectives are designated as LMI - principally benefits low and moderate-income persons; S/B - prevents or eliminates slums/blight; URG - meets a community development need having a particular urgency. The amounts in this section indicate the amount of each year's allocation, which benefit each of the three national objectives.

NATIONAL OBJECTIVES - BENEFIT PERIOD

The 1983 amendments to the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act required that 51% of the aggregate of CDBG funds shall benefit low and moderate income persons for a three year period. The State's initial certification period was 1984-1986. The second benefit period was stated as 1987-1989. The 1987 amendments to the HCD Act required that 60% of the funds benefit lower income persons for a three-year period. The State established the period to be 1988-1990. The Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 increased the required benefit to 70%. The current three-year benefit period is 2000-2002.

PART II - GRANT ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

This part of the Performance Evaluation Report contains summary data on each grant for each of the years which the state has received an allocation for Community Development Block Grant funds.

Recipient Name

Identifies the city, town, village or county awarded grant funds.

Project No

This is the project number assigned by the State of Nebraska.

Grant Status

Reports the stage that the grant is in. For example: Ashton Project No. 00WW009 is in the release of funds stage in its status. Grant Status runs from the stages, Award – Closeout, with the exception of terminate for projects that have been terminated.

HUD Matrix

List all activities in general categories, for which CDBG funds were received. The activities are presented in general categories as classified by the HUD IDIS Matrix System.

Use Name

List all the uses in general categories, for which CDBG funds were received. The uses are presented in general categories as classified by the State of Nebraska.

Activity Status

This column is used to indicate new activities, modified budget amounts and completion of an activity. Any grant with new activities since July 1, 2003 will be represented by “N” in this column. Any grant with changes to the budget since July 1, 2003 will be represented by “M” in this column.

Amount

This column refers to the financial amount approved for each activity. If the project is completed, the actual amount expended is reported. If an activity within a project was funded with money from multiple program years the amount is individually listed with the corresponding year. *

Year

This column refers to the program year that the funds for a project originated in.

Purpose

The general purpose for project funding are: ED - Economic Development; PF - Public Facilities; HO - Housing; PL - Planning; and PS - Public Service.

* The amounts and years are all listed separately, but the remainder of the information for the activity are only reported on one line. Example: the Colon Planning Project 00PP011 used funds from 1995, 1998 and 2000 for the planning activity.

National Objective

Each activity, except for administration, must meet a national objective of the Housing and Community Development Act. The national objective for a project falls under one of three main categories, which are: LMI - principally benefits low and moderate income persons (LMA, LMC, LMCMC, LMH and LMJ); S/B - prevents or eliminates slums/blight; URG - meets a community development need having a particular urgency. The national objective met by each activity is indicated for each grant.

Accomplishment Name

The accomplishment name identifies the type of unit, which is measured. For example, the accomplishment name for housing rehabilitation is "# of housing units" which is the number of housing units rehabilitated.

Proposed and Actual Accomplishments - Units

This number represents the total units proposed or accomplished by the specific grant. For example, there were 15 housing units proposed to be rehabbed under the Alliance 00HO103 grant.

Proposed Beneficiaries – Total and LMI and %

The proposed number of persons benefited under each activity is shown for each grant. The LMI column represents the number of the proposed total beneficiaries that are LMI. The % column gives the percent of the total that is LMI.

Actual Beneficiaries – Total and LMI and %

The actual number of persons benefited under each activity is shown for each grant. The LMI column represents the number of the actual total beneficiaries that are LMI. The % column gives the percent of the total that is LMI.

PART II – NARRATIVE

Part II of the report includes a summary of the relationship of the use of funds to the State's objectives. This is a brief summary, which compares the stated purpose for the use of the CDBG funds in Nebraska with the actual distribution of funds.

PART III - CIVIL RIGHTS

Part III is a listing of all grants made from each grant year and provides Civil Rights characteristics for each activity funded under the grants. A narrative assessment of Civil Rights performance, Fair Housing actions, and Minority and Women-Owned business participation is included with the 1994 through 2000 reports.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT/PROJECT NUMBER

Identifies the city, town, village or county awarded grant funds and the project number assigned by the State of Nebraska.

Activity Name

The activity name, as classified by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, is shown for each eligible activity.

BENEFICIARY DATA

Beneficiary data is shown using the six characteristic categories identified by HUD. The categories shown are: Category 1 - White, Not Hispanic; Category 2 - Black, Not Hispanic; Category 3 -Hispanic; Category 4 - Asian or Pacific Islander; Category 5 – American Indian/Alaskan Native; and Category 6 - Female Heads of Household.

Beneficiary data should not be considered final until grants are closed.

PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-03-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$14,172,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	166,871
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	8,449,296
---	-----------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	723,390
--------------------	---------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	383,440
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	141,720
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	2001-2003
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	8,021,392
---	-----------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	52,768
-----------------------------------	--------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	375,136
-------------------------	---------

PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-02-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,117,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	146,080
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,563,490
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	10,401,639
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	402,340
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	151,170
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	2001-2003
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	14,027,059
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	72,800
-----------------------------------	--------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	463,631
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-01-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,457,000
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PROGRAM INCOME	397,598
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B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,893,290
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C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	13,852,155
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D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	409,140
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	154,570
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	2001-2003
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	14,314,392
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	167,620
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
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5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	411,278
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-00-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$13,487,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	326,007
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	12,940,390
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	12,302,364
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	397,740
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	148,870
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1998-2000
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	12,216,422
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	273,746
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3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	450,222
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-99-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 - 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$14,884,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	259,544
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,287,970
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	13,397,908
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	447,680
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	148,350
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1998-2000
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	13,727,787
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	138,421
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3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
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4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	421,762
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-98-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$14,692,000
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PROGRAM INCOME	1,010,000
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B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,151,240
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	13,708,868
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	393,840
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	146,920
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1998-2000
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	13,211,874
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	454,335
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	485,031
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-97-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,063,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	1,850,048
----------------	-----------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,511,110
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	13,398,291
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	401,260
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	150,630
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1995-1997
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	13,259,511
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	185,952
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	422,623
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-96-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,241,000
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PROGRAM INCOME	169,000
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,683,770
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	14,440,061
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	404,820
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	152,410
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1995-1997
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	13,653,803
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	466,053
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	563,914
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-95-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,633,000
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PROGRAM INCOME	495,000
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	15,064,010
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	15,064,010
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	412,660
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	156,330
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1995-1997
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	14,480,582
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	146,944
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	436,484
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-94-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$15,241,000
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PROGRAM INCOME	270,465
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	14,683,800
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	14,683,800
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	404,800
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	152,400
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1992-1994
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	14,118,461
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	149,617
-----------------------------------	---------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
--	-----

5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	415,722
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PART I - FINANCIAL STATUS AND NATIONAL OBJECTIVES

GRANT NO. B-93-DC-31-0001

REPORTING PERIOD

7/01/03 – 06/30/04

DATA AS OF: June 30, 2004

1. FINANCIAL STATUS

A. TOTAL FUNDS

ALLOCATION	\$13,721,000
------------	--------------

PROGRAM INCOME	145,974
----------------	---------

B. AMOUNT OBLIGATED TO RECIPIENTS (TOTAL)	13,209,370
---	------------

C. AMOUNT DRAWDOWN	13,209,370
--------------------	------------

D. AMOUNT FOR STATE ADMINISTRATION	374,420
------------------------------------	---------

E. AMOUNT FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	137,210
------------------------------------	---------

2. NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

A. PERIOD SPECIFIED FOR BENEFIT	1992-1994
---------------------------------	-----------

B. AMOUNTS USED TO:

1. BENEFIT TO LOW/MODERATE INCOME PERSONS	12,961,034
---	------------

2. PREVENT/ELIMINATE SLUMS/BLIGHT	24,595
-----------------------------------	--------

3. MEET URGENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS	-0-
--	-----

4. ACQUISITION/REHABILITATION NONCOUNTABLE	-0-
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5. LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	360,951
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PART II

Relationship of the Use of Funds to the State's Objectives

The primary objective of the State of Nebraska's 2003 CDBG program was the same as the primary (overall) national objective established in Section 101(c) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended.

During the 2003 program year, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development awarded 121 grants in the amount of approximately \$14.1 million. Four funding categories – Community Development, Economic Development, Housing Rehabilitation and Planning – were established for the distribution of the 2003 Program Year awards.

Community Development Category: The primary state objective for this category is to fund basic needs in public works/facilities that are essential to the development of the state's communities and counties. Water/wastewater grants were added as a priority in 1997. Twenty-seven (27) grants were awarded for approximately \$6.6 million. Of this amount, approximately \$3.76 million was awarded for sixteen (16) public works projects and \$2.51 million was awarded for eleven (11) water/wastewater projects. Four (4) Tourism Development grants were awarded for \$.33 million.

Economic Development Category: There are two primary state objectives for this category. One is to support businesses, which expand the state's economic base and create quality jobs for persons in the low- and moderate-income levels. The second primary objective is to invest in communities, which support businesses and its citizens in entrepreneurial opportunities and continual education/training to foster quality lifestyles/communities. Local governments receive grants to provide appropriate assistance to businesses through working capital and fixed asset loans, loan guarantees, equity investments, job training, or public works grants. Financial assistance to local governments is awarded to diversify the state's economy while leveraging private sector investment, and providing jobs of which at least 51% should be available to low/moderate income persons. Fifteen (15) Economic Development grants totaling approximately \$5.07 million were awarded.

Housing Rehabilitation and Down payment Assistance Category: The primary state objective of this category is to invest in rehabilitation of existing housing for low and moderate income homeowners using regional and community level service delivery system. Objectives for down payment assistance were included in this category as well in the 2003 program year. Seven (7) grants were awarded for approximately \$1.37 million.

Planning Category: The primary objective is to provide communities the opportunity to solve problems and meet citizens needs through a community planning process that assesses community needs, develop options for meeting those needs, and package work plans or carry out processes that lead to successful projects. In total, thirty-one (31) grants were awarded for approximately \$.54 million.

Summary of Citizens' Comments

A summary of the citizen comments and DED's responses are included in Section One of the report.

Evaluation of Extent of Low and Moderate Income Benefit

Evaluation of benefit to low and moderate income persons is contained in the summary information on grantees as a part of this report. Of the \$13,598,631 which had been obligated to projects during the 2003 program year \$594,156 went to the grantees as local administration. Of the \$13,004,475 that went to project activities \$12,973,093 was used to benefit low and moderate income persons or 99.7%. Of the total amount that was obligated 95% was used to benefit low and moderate income. The additional \$31,382 or .2% was used to eliminate slum and blighted areas.

Explanation of Nature and Reasons for Changes in Program Objectives

There were no changes in program objectives.

Changes as Results of Experience

No changes were made to the program during the 2003 program year.

Summary of Technical Assistance Funding

The State of Nebraska uses its CDBG Technical Assistance funding to produce the Certified CDBG Administrator Training Workshops. As of March 1, 1996, the State of Nebraska requires the formal certification of all persons administering Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects in Nebraska. These workshops are conducted twice a year by the Community and Rural Development Division of DED and are scheduled to coincide with CDBG funding cycles. Anyone seeking the certified administrator designation must complete and pass the written exam. CDBG TA funds went towards conducting Environmental Review Training, Labor Standards, and Compliance Monitoring for local officials and Certified Administrators. The Community and Rural Development Division staff conducts the environmental training.

2003 CDBG technical assistance (TA) funds were also used in other projects during the program year.

CDBG TA funds went towards the support of the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA), training for local planning officials. Approximately \$7500 was used to support scholarships for attendees and for training costs not covered by registrations at the Nebraska Chapter APA Institutes in March 2004.

CDBG TA funds also went towards the support of the Nebraska Municipal Clerks' Association, "Clerks' Certification School." The school provides the education necessary for municipal clerks to become certified by the International Institution of Municipal Clerks. Approximately \$5000 was used to help provide scholarships for clerks to attend the training. The training enables clerks to become more professional and efficient in their jobs.

PART III - CIVIL RIGHTS SUMMARY CIVIL RIGHTS NARRATIVE

State's Review of Civil Rights

All grantees receive training in the civil rights rules and regulations during training sessions. Training sessions are reinforced with notices and updates through the CDBG Bulletin, which is published on an as-needed basis.

Each grantee's program eligibility criteria are reviewed to determine whether the criteria or methods of administration may have the effect of subjecting individuals to discrimination on the basis of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability.

Comparisons are made between recent census data regarding those protected classes and the percentages of those protected classes participating and receiving benefits from CDBG funds.

All grantees are required to maintain, on an ongoing basis, and on file permanently, numerical and percentage documentation and information regarding the following:

1. Total beneficiaries in project.
2. Total numbers of males/females.
3. Actual number of whites, blacks, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans and others.
4. Percentages of males, females, minorities, female heads of household, disabled population, and low to moderate income persons receiving benefits from the project funds.

Program representatives are required to consider this information, compared with census data, and determine if there is any indication any person and/or group of persons were denied benefits or employment on the grounds of race, age, sex or disability.

In addition, the state review the grantee's compliance with Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Grantees must have conducted a self evaluation of their facilities and their programs as they relate to the ADA/Section 504 compliance. In addition, the grantee must have on file, and available for review, a transition plan. The grantee must provide evidence that they are complying or making attempts to comply with these regulations.

Updates and notices regarding ADA/Section 504 compliance are made through the CDBG Bulletin.

The states review of all information gathered through monitoring visits indicates that grantee CDBG programs are being administered in a manner which does not deny any benefit or employment on the grounds of race, age, sex, national origin and disability.

State's Actions to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development continues to require its grantees to specifically address, as a special contract condition prior to Release of Funds, what actions they will take to affirmatively further fair housing. Grantees are provided a list of suggested items, and the need to take affirmative action regarding fair housing is covered during annual grantee training. Additional resources such as informational pamphlets, model fair housing ordinances and resolutions, posting materials and the HUD Housing Discrimination Complaint form are also provided to each grantee.

As a result of the above effort, a substantial number of communities adopted the model fair housing ordinance during 1995.

Section 3

The state has formulated a Section 3 Plan. This plan was funded from HUD SuperNofa funds. The plan establishes a statewide effort that will ensure that, to the greatest extent feasible, that HUD-funded projects provide contracting and employment opportunities for low-income people. Implementation efforts continue to actualize this plan.

State's Actions to Increase WBE/MBE Participation

The state continues to increase minority and women business participation in the CDBG/HOME and other program. All grantees are trained in the importance of increasing small business participation, with an emphasis on HUBS, in our programs.

The state has the HUB (Historically Underutilized Businesses) Directory, for use by grantees. This directory is made available to all grantees and other businesses throughout the state.